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REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE Senate debate on the Tariff drags its slow length along in such a way as to indicate that the whole of summer will be needed to effect its passage and that of the National Elections bill. The minority, led by Senator McPherson of New Jersey, offer amendments without end, and insist on a vote by a quorum on each, so that at times there is a full stop to the proceedings because one or two Senators of the majority are not at their posts. Even Mr. Blair, who has not been thought adverse to very prolonged discussions, and who himself has a notable "gift of continuance," has been moved to protest, and to move that the rules of the Senate be changed to put an end to dilatory motions and speeches. In this he is quite right. The national Senate does not exist to air senatorial eloquence, but to aid in carrying on the legislative business of the Government. And any rules which stand in the way of this, or which give the minority the power to assume the right to block legislation, are just as wrong as was the preposterous rule of the House as to what constitutes a quorum. If the Senate has become an impossible body under its present rules, it is time to change them.

On the Democratic side of the discussion there have been speeches from Messrs. Plumb and George,—the former ranking nominally as a Republican, but arrayed against that party on the main issue which divides the two. He took the opportunity of the schedule to determine the duties on glass and earthenwares to show his entire agreement with the minority as to the effect of Tariff legislation. That both glass and earthenware have been much cheapened since their naturalization as manufactures in this country he had to admit. But he refused to give any part of the credit to the operation of the Protective Tariff, declaring that it was due to the general course of improvement in all kinds of production. Mr. Plumb does not seem to be aware that much of the reduction in price of earthenwares has been due to our application of machinery to processes which had been carried on by hand and foot since the days of Pharaohs in the old world, and that there is not the smallest reason to suppose that these improvements would have been made if we had not naturalized these industries.

Mr. Plumb is quite ready to protect anything his constituents are producing. Kansas stands next to Southern Illinois as the producer of castor oil, and Mr. Plumb moved and carried the increase of duty on that article from fifty to eighty cents a gallon just the day before his speech. He defended this course on the ground that his constituents are not allowed to buy their goods at Free Trade prices, so it was reasonable for them to wish to make protectionist profits. Yet there is not a farmer of them whose bushel of wheat or carcass of pork will not buy him far more of either glass or earthenwares than it would have done under Free Trade. Even Mr. Edward Atkinson, who is a frank Free Trader, has shown that the farmers have no reason to look back to those times with any longing for their return.

There is one point at which the American makers of earthenwares are open to attack, and on that they were not assailed. The wares of this class, even the simplest of them, should possess an artistic quality, which is too much wanting in all but a small part of the products of our potteries. Trenton has made creditable progress since the Centennial showed such a "poor use of the finest materials in the world,"—to use Prof. Reuleaux's words. But the western potteries, with some notable exceptions at Cincinnati, have done entirely too little for the education in taste of such people as Mr. Plumb. It is in the direction of the

higher forms of the art, as Mr. L. W. Miller has so well shown, that effort is particularly needed.

MR. GEORGE had the advantage of Mr. Plumb in that he was not denouncing the national and State platforms of the party to whose votes he owes his seat. But he was not any better informed as to the operation of Tariff laws. He repeated Mr. Shearman's amazing nonsense about the ownership of the greater part of our wealth by 100,000 people, as though it were the most unquestionable of facts. And he undertook to prove that the labor-cost of a ton of steel-rails was only \$1.54, which he achieved by assuming that all the labor involved in the production is that required to convert the steel ingot into the steel rail. If Mr. George will vote for an adequate duty on Bessemer steel in ingots, the rail-makers will be quite satisfied with a duty on rails not much in excess of that. But he did not notice the fact that we are selling steel rails cheaper than they are to be bought in any other part of the world. It was from such premises that he derived his warrant for warning the Northern people that they are living over a volcano.

Two Republican Senators have broken through the general rule of abstaining from set speeches on the Tariff, and that for personal reasons. Mr. Hiscock represents a constituency which is more sharply divided on this question than any other in the country, and this made it judicious for him to give utterance to the faith that is in him. He reminded the Senate that with the exception of one schedule and part of another, the bill as reported by its Finance Committee is precisely that which the Senate passed in 1888 and which the Republican party in that canvass adopted as expressing its idea of what Tariff revision should be. It was on that bill that the farmers of his own State rolled up their big Republican majorities, and the small manufactories of New York City gave the party 107,000 votes, and thus settled the question at issue. He denied that any part of that vote was purchased, while he called attention to the aid received by the Democrats from the liquor interest and from the resident-agents of foreign manufacturers. He declared that the people of New York are more wealthy and their wealth better distributed than ever before, and that where poverty and suffering exist among them it is associated with vice and crime or indolence. He rejoiced in the growing prosperity of the South, to which Southern Senators had referred, and asked their attention to the extent to which it had been created by the influx of capital and enterprise from the North. He urged them no longer to discuss these questions with sectional reference of any kind.

MR. MORRILL, who may take rank as the dean of the Protectionists, was moved to break silence by the character of the declamation on the other side. He gave the House some bits of history that the minority seemed to be ignorant of, such as the great enlargement of Free List by the remission of the war-taxes on tea, coffee, and other articles in 1870. He called attention to the fact that the proposed bill increases the proportion of goods not liable to duty to a full half of our imports. He might fairly infer from the tone taken by the Democratic speakers that they preferred the prosperity of foreign manufacturers to that of our own, to whom they always referred with bitter denunciations. He assured them that this was much more the working-man's question than that of his employer, as with the reduction of wages which a low Tariff would entail, the manufacturer would suffer less than his men. He quoted from Sir Charles Dilke's recent book the statement that an American workman earns

usually twice as much for a shorter day's work as he would in England.

As for the farming depression, that was a world-wide phenomenon, which could not be traced to any peculiar American legislation. Much had been said of farm-mortgages, but nothing of the extent to which they were held by farmers who had saved money. Mortgages were abundant only in the new States, where they had been given by young men making their start in life, who had not the money to stock their farms. He illustrated the practical importance of the Tariff to the farmer by showing that from Canada we had been importing breadstuffs and other farm-produce at the rate of twenty millions a year; and he did not recognize anything in the political attitude of the Dominion which entitled it to this access to the markets our policy had created across the line which separates us. He favored the removal of as much of the duty on sugar as could be spared, along with a bounty on home-made sugar to bring up our own production, as had been done in Europe, to the national demand.

THE conference on the two "Original Package" bills has resulted in the representatives of the House retreating from their position and agreeing to report a measure similar to that adopted by the Senate, but somewhat differently worded. This was a foregone conclusion as soon as the Senate declined to entertain the House's proposal to enlarge the scope of the bill. The compromise measure enacts—

"That all fermented, distilled, or other intoxicating liquors or liquids, transported into any State or Territory for use, consumption, sale or storage, shall, on arrival in such State or Territory (or remaining therein) be subject to the operation and effect of the laws of such State or Territory, enacted in the exercise of the police powers, to the same extent, and in the same manner as though such liquors or liquids had been produced in such State or Territory, and shall not be exempt therefrom by reason of being introduced there in original packages or otherwise."

This is carefully worded, but it will be provocative of an abundance of litigation. The very fact that it follows so closely the language of the Constitution in the famous clause which was supposed to furnish a basis for the Fugitive Slave law, will be alleged as a reason for regarding it as exceeding the powers of Congress in virtually altering the Constitution without referring the amendment to the States. Then it will be claimed that the law leaves it quite uncertain before what court suits shall be taken. Is it a law to regulate Inter-State commerce? Then United States courts alone have jurisdiction. Does it adopt into the United States statutes all the legislation the States have enacted for the restraint of the liquor-traffic? But some of those laws are inquisitorial to an extent forbidden by the national Constitution. The bill opens up long vistas, and pleasant, to the lawyers.

THE Atlanta Constitution is now ready to back down from its proposition to boycott the business community of the North. It probably has been helped to this conclusion by more private persuasions than have been heard through the press of the South. The Southern people are politically excitable, but they always have shown a very practical perception of where their solid interest lay; and they have not allowed excitement to deflect their judgment in this case. They know that, whatever may have been the case before the War, their local development now depends on the continuance of hearty and intimate intercourse with the rest of the country; and that the sections and classes which served them under threats of black-listing before the War, are no longer in control of this country and its policy.

The plea for the retreat is that the clause prescribing the employment of soldiers at the polls has been eliminated from the bill. There was no such clause in the bill when it passed the House, if there ever had been any such. There was none such in it when the Constitution made its public bid for the cap and bells. And if there had been any such provision in the bill, that would not have imparted to it the "sectional character" which the Constitution's editor speaks of. That clause would be operative

only where public violence called for the maintenance of order by armed force. It might have been in the lower wards of New York as readily as in Atlanta. All this is an attempt to sneak out of an untenable position.

The House Committee on Elections notes in passing what an argument for such a bill is furnished by the case of the Third Arkansas Election District. If it had been in force there would have been no stealing the ballot-box, no shooting of Col. Clayton, no putting two witnesses out of the way as soon as they were suspected of being in communication with Pinkerton's detectives. These things would not have been tried, simply because they would have been of no use under the operation of the law to put an end to the force at elections by substituting the reign of law for that of the shot-gun.

THE Boston Beacon is an admirable specimen of an Independent Republican newspaper. We call it Republican because on the great questions of national policy,—human equality, protection to American industry, sound money, etc.,—it is in harmony with that party. But its independence is equally pronounced, and it never fails to specify what it disapproves of. Last week it expressed its fear that the Tariff Administration bill would be found to be in several respects a mistake. It specifies two points especially. One of these is the inclusion of the cost of packages and wrappers in the invoice-value of imported goods. It recalls the fact that in 1883 the Republican party took a great deal of credit to itself for having altered the law in exactly the opposite direction. We are not familiar enough with the question thus raised to pronounce on the wisdom of including the cost of package. We can imagine, however, that those slippery gentlemen who have been sending us doctored invoices managed to use this very provision of 1883 in an unfair way. At any rate, in estimating the amount of duty to which any American commodity is entitled, it would be but fair to recognize the counting the cost of package as a virtual increase of the duty above that of 1883.

On the other point the Beacon is wrong. It says that as the law stood "the importer had the right to appeal to the courts, to appear by counsel, and to have his case passed upon by a jury. The new law denies him this privilege." It never was proposed to deprive the importer the right to appeal to the courts on questions of law; it only proposed that the appraisers should be the final judges of the facts. They are so in every European country, and nowhere but in the United States can an importer appeal from the decision of the custom-house authorities to a court. But the Senate amended the bill so as to restore to the importer all the rights of appeal which he had before, and it was passed as thus amended.

Boston and Philadelphia have an equal interest in the enforcement of this law, as it may be the means of stopping the enormous leakage in the New York custom-house to which that city owes its almost monopoly of some branches of trade. A gentleman who had excellent opportunities of judging, has told us that in his estimate the Treasury loses about \$50,000,000 a year through the laws being evaded at that port.

ONE of the most important powers with which the Inter-State Commerce Commission was invested is also one it has been naturally the slowest to exercise. It is that of determining what is a fair compensation for any service, and compelling the railroads to reduce their charges to that figure. Its first exercise was at the suggestion of the National Senate, which last February instructed the Commission to ascertain the reasons for the inability of the farther Western States to compete with others in the grain-market. The Commission reported in July that it had made the investigation and found the rates charged the grain-producers were not reasonable. Especially it found a much higher charge for corn than for wheat west of the Missouri, a difference amounting in some cases to 25 per cent. It now orders a reduction of rates, which will bring the cost of taking corn from those points to Chicago from 13.5 to 9.3 cents a bushel.

We presume the difference has been made with reference to the export trade. Usually the charges are higher in proportion to the value of the freight. That it has been reversed in this case must have been in order to keep charges on wheat so low as to enable its transportation to the seaboard without violating the rule against higher charges for a shorter distance. Our export of corn is but a trifling percentage of the crop, while we have been selling some 37 per cent. of our wheat abroad. The Commission, however, think wheat-rates even for corn will be remunerative to the railroads.

THERE has been an election in Kentucky and the form of one in Alabama this week. In Kentucky the Democrats elected their candidate by a plurality of 33,333, the Republicans polling 114,649 votes. The Third Party also had a ticket in the field, their candidate being a woman; but that party is not strong in the Bourbon State.

In Alabama the only shadow of interest attached to the canvass made by the candidate of the Farmers' Alliance, who still continued to run after being defeated for the Democratic nomination. Under these circumstances it was not likely that he would poll the strength of the Alliance. It is said that his vote was insignificant.

In Mississippi there has been held an election of delegates to a State Constitutional Convention, with the usual incident of a political murder to enliven matters. A Republican editor was waited upon by his Democratic fellow-citizens and warned to desist from making speeches, as it "made the whites uneasy." He did not desist, and he was killed within a few hours after his next speech. It is alleged on the other hand that the killing was by a man of whom the editor had insinuated that he had negro blood in his veins. It certainly was a more manly murder than most of those recorded in the South, as it was done in open day and with no attempt at concealment. For even such gains let us be thankful!

In the Seventh Congressional district (Bucks and Montgomery counties), to which we referred last week, the present representative, Mr. Yardley, is serving his second term, and instead of being dismissed just when he has begun to have some experience and to establish himself as a useful member, ought to be reelected for two or three more terms, at least. But Mr. Yardley is set aside by the vicious usage of alternating the place between the two counties every other term, and he has been wrecked, at any rate, on the rock of his post-office appointments. It was impossible to please everybody with these, and after intolerable annoyance and labor over them, he succeeded in displeasing so many persons that he would probably be defeated now if he were nominated. The post-office "patronage" he has found a snare and a delusion indeed.

Whether the district is to be lost to the Republicans is not settled, but it probably will be. The nomination of Mr. Wanger is expected, and Mr. Wanger, in addition to his Quay connection, is objected to on sundry other accounts. A very good nomination would be that of Charles Heber Clark, of Conshohocken, now Secretary of the Manufacturers' Club, and editor of the *Textile Record*, but Mr. Clark, while he would accept the candidacy, if the Republican convention should see fit to select him, will not go about begging for it,—a resolution which does him credit, but may give somebody else the nomination.

THE evil influence of corrupt leadership is very pointedly illustrated in the case of State Senator Brown, of Montgomery county. He was heartily supported four years ago by the elements of his (Republican) party which comprehended and opposed the Quay system of Harrisburg legislation, and secured his nomination through this support. In the session of 1887, he was usually on the people's side of affairs, more than the Bosses', and on the whole his standing with his constituents was good. In the

next session, however, he committed himself unreservedly to "the swim," (as a gushing and indiscreet Harrisburg correspondent of the *Norristown Herald*, intending to recommend him as a sound party man, phrased it), and while Mr. Quay gave orders to Mr. Delamater, the later passed the word to Mr. Brown. The consequence to Mr. Brown has been just what it will be to Mr. Delamater and Mr. Quay: the people stood him aside. He desired, of course, a reelection, and some time ago sent out circular-letters asking support for another nomination. But he has found it not worth while to persevere, and has now announced in the county newspapers his withdrawal from the field. Certain farmers and others waited on him and frankly notified him that it was useless for him to run: that his own party would not give him a united support. Hence he wisely decided to abandon the contest.

We regret Senator Brown's situation. But, as we remarked above, it illustrates precisely the malign influence of Quayism. Mr. Delamater is considered a "bright" man; certainly he has great ambition, energy, and perseverance; but his political prospects are blighted, because he has submitted them to the degrading service of corrupt politics, and has chosen to obey a Boss rather than represent the common welfare. Mr. Brown struck the popular wave earlier; that is all.

THE decision of the Post-Office authorities not to let Tolstoy's "Kreutzer Sonata" pass through the mails, is mentioned elsewhere. We remark here that the book certainly is a very objectionable one, but as indecency is not its object, it would have been better to have ignored it than to have given it this gratuitous advertisement to a much wider public than could be reached in any other way. Its half-truths and morbid indictment of the social order may prove harmful to a limited class of minds; but it is a very different performance from the lubricity of the Parisian and German literature of the baser sort.

The greater vigilance of the authorities and of Mr. Comstock and his friends is said to have caused quite a diminution in the sale of objectionable novels within two years. The same is true of London, where the establishment of local self-government has been attended with an outburst of British Puritanism such as would have gratified the Long Parliament. Mr. Smalley is inconsolable at finding that the "Decameron" and the "Heptameron" are no longer to be had except at second-hand, and that the same is true of Sir Thomas Urquhart's translation of Rabelais, which carries off the palm for indecency from even the original.

THE experiment the Delaware and Hudson railroad is making in the substitution of steel for wooden ties, is one which will interest the whole country. The first American railroads were laid without ties of any kind, the rail being placed on the top of a wall of masonry built into the ground. It was quite a venture to replace this with cross-ties of wood laid on the ground. In some British roads heavy beams of timber laid lengthwise were tried, but abandoned as too expensive. The consumption of wood for ties has reached the point at which the demand exceeds the supply, and probably would exceed it under the most careful forestry. Some substitute must be found, and the reduction of the cost of low grade steel seems to indicate that as the best. The new ties are clamped to the rails in such a fashion as to obviate the risk of "spreading;" but of course they will contract and expand with changes of temperature, and must run the risk of snapping in severe freezing, just as the rails do. But the American improvements in making Bessemer steel diminish this risk very much by producing a grade much less likely to be affected by such changes than English steel is. And allowance for contraction and expansion is a matter for the wheel-makers. As it is, the flange of every wheel is much wider than the rail. The one question to be determined is that of cost. We can do almost anything, if it will pay.

MR. ROBERT GIFFIN, the English writer, of deserved eminence as a statistician, has been discussing our new silver law. He is not a great economist, yet he has shown at times an exceptional insight into separate economic problems, such as the Balance of Trade. He now admits that we have been able to put up the price of silver, and thinks that we may be able for a time to bring it to a par with gold, at 1 : 16. But he is of the opinion that this can be only temporary, and he says he foresees very serious evils as likely to result from our experiment with a double standard. If we should fail in that, we will make our next experiment with the help of Great Britain, unless India has been conquered by Russia in the mean time. Our chief mistake has been in not forcing the extension of that help before making any attempt to deal with the problem on our own account.

SOMETHING of a stir has been caused by the negotiations of the Salisbury government with the Papal Curia in the matter of the "mixed marriages" among the Queen's subjects in Malta. That the Liberal government employed the services of Sir George Errington, an English "Cawtholic" to obtain the Pope's help in dragooning the Irish priesthood, is not to be denied. But Sir George was only a private person, temporarily resident at Rome, and he acted for Lord Granville from his hearty interest and that of the English Catholics in putting down the Home Rule movement. Lord Salisbury went much farther when he sent Sir John Lintorn Simmons as an accredited envoy to the Vatican,—the first since the Reformation that has gone from England. He thus gave fresh and dire offense to the Protestant feeling of the British majority, which might have winked at a less formal procedure, such as Mr. Gladstone's government employed.

The substance of the agreement should be much more offensive than the method by which it was obtained. It always has been held a moral offense on Rome's part that she denies the validity of marriages contracted between members of her own communion and Christians of other names. In this controversy over "Vaticanism" Mr. Gladstone made much of cases in which Roman Catholics who had been living in such marriages were allowed by their Church to repudiate them and to marry Roman Catholics while their former partners were still living. Protestants have stigmatized this as an ecclesiastical sanction of adultery, in the most direct defiance of Christ's words on the subject of divorce. It was the refusal of the Archbishop of Cologne to abide by the traditional understanding that mixed marriages should not be interfered with in Germany, which precipitated the quarrel of 1837, and laid the foundation for all the subsequent disagreements between Berlin and Rome. There is not a Protestant country in the world which allows of any remarriages on the supposition that mixed marriages are invalid; yet this is exactly what has been conceded in Malta. The Roman Catholic archbishop has been allowed to cancel marriages of this kind by declaring them of no validity. We predict that the more John Bull thinks over that concession, the more indignant he will be.

THE Protestant side of Mr. Gladstone's head will be very active on this new question. Nor will he be in the least embarrassed by his alliance with the Irish Home Rulers, who are not in a state of mind to care much what he says of the Pope, so long as he abstains from the Orange formula. The Papacy has been trading on the traditional loyalty of the Irish people in its transactions with the British Government in a way which has weakened that loyalty to a degree which should be alarming to the Vatican. In the Repeal agitation the Catholic spirit was very strong, as O'Connell was more churchly than the priesthood. But the bishops who have acted in accordance with the reports of Monsignor Persico and the subsequent admonitions of the Vatican, have earned the hatred of the Irish people, and not their esteem. At this moment there is in progress a violent controversy between Bishop O'Dwyer of Limerick and the Home Rule leaders, in which the organs of

the latter exhibit how wide is the difference between the new attitude and the old as regards the hierarchy. There is no limit to the love and respect for Dr. Walsh and men of like mind with him. But an Irish bishop who is not a Nationalist is not much thought of in our day, and he hears more plain speaking than his predecessors in office could have imagined.

THERE are very contradictory statements from Russia concerning Government action toward the Jews. One report says a ukase has been issued expelling them: another assures us that nothing of the sort is proposed. It is well known, of course, that many of the continental newspapers, especially in Berlin and Vienna, are in the hands of the Jews, so that the despatches we get from those centres of intelligence are not likely to be impartial. There may be room, consequently, to believe that the deniers of the report are right. At any rate nothing is to be gained by foreign interference in the matter. At the recent meeting of the European Evangelical Alliance the representatives of the Lutherans of the Baltic Provinces begged their brethren to take no action on their behalf, as the Czar is excessively jealous of every appearance of outside meddling between him and his subjects. The same no doubt is true as regards the Siberian exiles, the Nihilists, and other classes for whom our sympathies have been invited.

If it be genuine, which we prefer not to believe, the new code is barbarous enough. The Jews are forbidden to live anywhere but in certain towns of sixteen provinces. They are debarred from entering the army and the government services, from owning lands or becoming professional men. All this is quite in keeping with the mediæval legislation, which converted the Jew into a mere money-lender,—the capacity in which he is most detested. "Whip the dog out of church, and then blame him for being a bad Christian!"

FINANCIAL REVIEW.

NEW YORK.

SOME life was finally imparted to the railway share market by the certainty that there had been serious damage to the crops, and what the damage amounted to. Leading operators whose position allowed them to take the bear side promptly unloaded such stock as they had, and under the lead of Mr. Cammack systematically attacked the list. The first symptom that the dormant bear party had come to life again was the suspicious weakness of Missouri Pacific. One day the early part of this week it slid off two per cent., and on succeeding days it acted in a weak way which seemed to give notice that the bears had got the "tip" from high quarters to go in and sell. The last time there was a real bear time in Wall street it was started in just the same way. Missouri Pacific broke from somewhere in the nineties, and it has never been up there since. It probably will be many a long day before it ever does get there. It would be much safer to bet that it will pass off the dividend list and sell as low as Atchison has or ever will. At present the stock is paying 4 per cent. dividends. The last time there was a serious shortage in the crops in the territory served by the Missouri Pacific the dividends were reduced from 6 to 5, and then to 4 per cent. There is another shortage now, and the next move will be to pass the dividends altogether. Furthermore, it is to be remembered that before the general run of people knew of or thought much about the crops down in the South-west, they were astonished at the way Missouri Pacific came tumbling down. Mr. Gould said gravely it was the bears. He will undoubtedly say the same on this occasion, when the stock tumbles again. No one need be surprised to see Missouri Pacific selling in the fifties before long.

The crop damage will be given as the reason, but damage or no damage the stock would eventually get there under a process of constant increase in fixed charges with no corresponding increase in earnings. When the dividends are finally passed, Mr. Gould will be found to have the bonds, but no stock to speak of. When the bears who had taken the wink, which is as good as a nod to a blind horse, attacked Missouri Pacific they also raided Rock Island. It is very remarkable that whereas Wall street used to be treated to stories that Mr. Gould was ready to sacrifice his M. P. to slaughter Atchison, it is now said that Rock Island is the enemy he has his eye on, and that come what will the Rock Island must be punished for invading the Missouri Pacific's territory. It is all humbug anyway. The follies of Atchison manage-

ment brought that road to the verge of bankruptcy, but it has risen again with a marvelous exhibition of vigor; and as to Rock Island, the road had to make some very expensive extensions in defense of its main line system, which are a severe burden on it. But when the Atchison is paying dividends again, and Rock Island has resumed its 6 per cent. rate once more (it is paying 4 now) Missouri Pacific will be a Wabash wreck, undergoing reorganization. It will have reached that stage by the process of slow but sure sapping of its vitals, to which Mr. Gould has put every property he ever controlled,—except Western Union. There are too many strong and watchful interests in that stock for him to have his way with the property.

The crop damage is unequally distributed, as is generally the case; but it is known to be severe in Kansas. Atchison has just paid 2½ per cent. of interest on its income bonds, (they are 5s., when the interest is earned), but it would be too much to expect any more for a year or two in the face of this short crop. Some holders of C. B. & Q. got frightened and sold out, causing that stock to slide off rather quickly; and St. Paul, well supported for a time, also weakened under the selling pressure. The company shows for its fiscal year ending June 30 last, less than 1½ per cent. earned on the common stock. Luckily for the farmers, and for the country, the reserves of grain remaining over from last year, which was one of great yield, are very large, and the deficiencies of the European crops ensure a good demand upon this country at high prices. It is due to the constantly rising prices for grain that there is comparatively little outcry from the farming districts about the lessened yield this year. Dollar wheat at Chicago will probably be considered a bottom price again, as it used to be before India came into serious competition with us in the Liverpool market.

When the bears attacked the market they resorted to the usual contrivance of bidding up the price of money. The low state of the bank reserves makes this comparatively easy. London has been a steady seller of our securities ever since the outbreak of the troubles in South America. The trouble there, long deferred, came at last in an unexpectedly aggravated form, for it had been fondly hoped that revolutions were a thing of the past, and when this one came along in the regular old fashioned style, it opened the eyes of the British investor and speculator to the disagreeable fact that the social and political regeneration of a people is not accomplished simply by lending them extravagant amounts of money. Everything went down in the London market, and, of course "Americans" were promptly sold, stocks and banks alike, because the holders being badly bit with their Argentinians turned into cash the things for which there was a ready sale. This started the exports of gold, and they continued until checked by the higher rates for money on his side. Fortunately for Wall street the Treasury Department raised the limit of its bids for bonds, and the large amount offered in response to the Secretary's circular calling for offers put about \$9,000,000 of cash into the banks just at the time they were being called upon for the gold exports. The question whether the Treasury ought to let its fine gold bars go out, instead of compelling the exporters to take coin, seems strangely mixed. If gold bars can be had gold can be sent at a slightly lower rate than if coin were taken, and it is urged that the Treasury ought to refuse to deliver anything but coin, the same as the Bank of England does when it wishes to keep its gold. It is said there is no law authorizing the Treasury to do this; but gold bars are not legal tender. The Treasury could not pay a debt in them if the creditor refused to take them; therefore it would seem that the Secretary did not need the specific authorization of law to justify him in refusing to pay anything but gold coin. However, when the rates for money rose it effected the same purpose speedily enough. It also brought out again another lot of bonds for sale, which helped the stock market a little. But as affairs stand it seems as if the bears had the best of it.

MR. DELAMATER'S "PERSONAL CANVASS."

IT is announced that it is thought best not to have Mr. Quay too conspicuous in the present Pennsylvania canvass. "In fact," says the political article in the *Philadelphia Ledger*, (August 4), "it is the intention of the party workers to keep Senator Quay in the background during the present campaign as much as possible, if he will permit it. It is the theory of the managers that the less Senator Quay's name is used the better it will be for Senator Delamater's chances of success."

Of course, this is a natural suggestion to the "party workers,"—as natural as any other inclination of the human mind to avoid danger, or shun arrest in bad company. Mr. Delamater considers that he now has received Mr. Quay's nomination, under the party

forms, and that the less association he has with Mr. Quay, the less the Quay tag is displayed, until after the Fourth of November, the more possible it will be to obtain favor with the people of Pennsylvania. The name of the Boss, invoked at Harrisburg, was of use: but for Mr. Quay, Junior, to tell the Commonwealth that "Pap wants it" may not be helpful.

Hence, Mr. Delamater's "personal canvass." He is going, as has been stated, from "house to house," or, more exactly, from man to man, among those who have expressed themselves unfavorably to him, or who would be likely to dislike and resent the control of the State by men who are in such a situation as Mr. Quay now is. Mr. Delamater appears to have great confidence in his own arts of pleasing. He fancies that by persistent personal effort he can so check the independent disposition of thinking and self-respectful men as to head off a Republican movement against him. By the united arts of Button-hole and Bamboozle he supposes he will put the canvass on the same foundation as that which it ordinarily holds, and then can safely leave it to the machine work of the bogus "Chairman" Andrews.

Mr. Delamater miscalculates. He is wasting his force in this disagreeable August weather. However strong he may be as a persuader, he is attempting to lift what is beyond his strength. The difficulties of his case are insuperable. He is known to the State as Mr. Quay's candidate. The man who does not recognize him as such is a political curiosity. He got his nomination at Mr. Quay's hands, in defiance of the clearly-defined and well expressed will of the party. He is beholden to Mr. Quay for it. He stands on the platform of the convention, representing a fulsome and disgraceful certificate to Mr. Quay's unblemished character! That certificate is to be adopted by his election; it is to be rejected by his defeat. Of what avail is it to get a few gentlemen in a corner, and endeavor to bamboozle them, in the face of a fact so tremendous?

But, besides: Mr. Delamater is himself under charges of the most injurious character. They affect both his character as a man, and his standing as a political official. They were publicly made: he chooses not to meet them publicly. He thinks, or says he thinks, that it is enough to explain them privately, as he can get audience of individuals. This is an amazing misconception of his duty as a candidate. Does he suppose that only a score, or a hundred, of persons who are reported to be independent in their views of political duty, are interested in such a matter? Mr. Emery, in the speech at Bradford, charged upon him such political corruption, and such statutory malfeasance, as, if undenied, makes him an impossible candidate for Governor of the State. That is a question, then, in which the whole people are interested. Every voter, from Chester to Erie, is entitled to know how he explains away the evidence against him. Mere private explanations are valueless: and, more than that, they are grounds for additional presumption of the truth of the charges. When the gravest possible charge, affecting a public man, with reference to a public matter, is publicly made, it must be publicly met, and avoidance of this must be construed as indicating guilt. A public answer is searchable by everybody, and its weakness, if it be weak, is soon proven; a private plea is known only to the one person to whom it is presented, and may be varied to suit the occasion. If Mr. Delamater does not come out into the open and meet the public charge that he bribed voters, took a false oath as Senator, and purchased silence concerning the bribery, he may be set down as unable to meet it. This is not a case for button-holing and persuasion in a corner.

Nor is it any more fit that Mr. Delamater should attempt to privately explain his action with reference to the falsified "conference report" at the close of the Legislature, or his other action at Harrisburg in favor of legislation which the Bosses wished, and against that which the people asked. It is no more fit, either, that he content himself with private explanations of the contracts into which he entered with Mr. Quay and the Standard Oil Company, by means of which he became the (nominal) candidate of the Republican party for Governor of the State. These, too, are

public matters which have been properly brought before the public tribunal, and cannot be put aside by "personal" persuasion. The charge is made,—made in many quarters, again and again, by reputable men and well-known journals,—that the course which he pursued in the Senate was in accord with contracts made and relations held to corporations whose interests and plans are against the interests of the State. These are public questions, and need to be publicly met. If Mr. Delamater's speeches, votes, and other acts were for the general good, he can show it. If they squared with the designs of the Bosses and the Corporations, of course he does not want a public trial.

To lift the dead weight of great issues like these by private solicitation, and public avoidance, is not possible. This sort of "personal canvass," Mr. Delamater, only serves to increase the majority recorded against you.

THE FARMER IN POLITICS.

THE organization of any class or profession into a political party is not a desirable arrangement. It is apt to obscure to that class its interdependence of interest with all other classes, to result in enacting its least reasonable prejudices into laws, and to put a check to the normal development of legislation through the antagonism of the natural parties. For there are two natural parties in every community, one of which seeks to accelerate the development of the body politic on the lines of its historical growth, while the other retards it. No profession coincides with this natural cleavage; all contain men who belong to both. To substitute political organization on the lines of a business or a profession for political organization on the lines suggested by the general life of the State, must always work confusion and retard progress, without at all strengthening the elements of political permanence.

In this country the preponderance of the farmers above all other industrial classes very naturally suggests some such movement as the Farmers' Alliance or the Farmers' League, which at present are working for the control of politics in different parts of the country. The farmer knows he can outvote everybody else. He is more apt to cherish suspicion that he is not getting fair play in the control of the public interests than is any worker who comes into closer and more constant contact with his fellow-men. It is to the credit of our human nature that the more closely men are associated, the more they are inclined to believe in one another. Just because the farmer does his work in comparative solitude, he is tempted to be suspicious, and is more ready to listen to demagogues who assure him that he is being despoiled or neglected by those who manage the government.

For the last ten years the American farmer has not wanted advisers of this mischievous kind. He has been told that he is in debt and losing ground; that he alone is not prosperous; that he should take things into his own hands and remodel the system of taxation and the general administration of affairs. And on the other hand he has been outraged by the rise of a new school of economic vagarists, who propose to substitute for all other taxes a rent-tax on land,—the one thing on which he depends for his subsistence and his social position. He is much inclined to think that land, especially farm-lands, already pay far too much of the taxes, and he is enamored of the idea that all kinds of property should be taxed equally for the support of the Government. That the impossibility and the unwisdom of taxing everything has been demonstrated by the economists does not move him. He wants to repeat an experiment which has broken down a score of times in nearly every State.

We think the political associations of farmers will not last long. Their members will not go very far in the control of State or local governments without making the discovery that the whole range of what government can accomplish is a very limited one, and that no millennium can be brought in by legislation. Some abuses and evils they probably will be able to get rid of.

If they have really made up their minds to secure the adequate representation of their own class in our legislatures, there is one evil they may do away with. The American theory, that these legislatures are composed of actual specimens of the people for whom they legislate, is far from the fact. Here, as elsewhere, the business of governing has been made over to a class,—to the class which has the most leisure, the most practice in speech-making, and the most technical familiarity with governmental matters. This has been because the farmer, like the city business-man, has been too busy to take hold of politics. The lawyers fill the legislatures, State and national, through the default of the rest of the community, and as a consequence our legislation is more narrowly a reflection of the ideas and traditions of the legal profession than that of any other country of Christendom.

We see no reason to expect that these political organizations of farmers will affect national politics seriously, except perhaps in the South. There seems to be some hope that the breach they are making within the Democratic party there may result in obliterating the color-line from politics. But in the North the existing situation is not favorable to the formation of parties which shall supersede the old. The issues which divide Democrat and Republican are more distinct and vital than any time since the era of Reconstruction. It is two decades since our politics were in so satisfactory a condition in this respect. Whatever the merits of the questions that have been occupying Congress, and that formed the basis of the last national campaign, they certainly are such as involve great principles, and appeal to the judgment and the interest of every intelligent citizen. The parties are not mere warring factions, gathered round the personal fortune of clever political adventurers. They are parties in the broadest and truest sense of the term. And to whatever issue they carry their struggle in Congress and elsewhere, this is not a time of which it will be said that for want of genuine political interests, mere class interests succeeded in coming to the front and obliterating previous party lines.

THE COMING NEWSPAPER.

IT must be incredible to a thoughtful mind that our daily journals have reached their final form in the enormous blanket sheets which they now publish. In some aspects of the case journalism has distinctly gone backward. The newspaper of the day is a deterioration from those our fathers read, when Bennett the elder, Raymond, Greeley, Bryant, and Webb set the standards of enterprise and excellence. Yet it is a development from them, as the next stage will also be an evolution.

That development is worth examination for the light it can throw upon the future. When the war of Secession began in America, we were in the midst of what has been called "personal journalism." Great editors stamped their characteristics on their publications, and men bought the papers to learn what a Bowles or Weed, a Greeley or a Forney thought of current events. The editorial page usually opened with a long leader, elaborate, vigorous, argumentative, and often it was the first thing a person turned to scan when his morning paper was laid by his side. It is now said that the days of "personal journalism" are over, and an entirely new conception rules the production of the daily. In former times papers were read for their ideas, now they aim simply to be vehicles of news. The reporter has changed places with the editor. This is the central fact of the journalistic revolution. But is it true that there is no more "personal journalism"? Has that function grown obsolete and disappeared, or has it merely transferred itself to other forms of publication? Probably at no time has there been so much of it or so many able men engaged in it, or such weight attached to it as now, only it has detached itself from the newspaper, and reappears in weekly and monthly periodicals, and in the rapidly increasing list of special-interest publications.

Let one contemplate the prodigious growth of periodical literature since the war, its rapid absorption by the public, and one might well conjecture that journalism has not parted with any of its functions, but has merely differentiated them into separate forms. Not only have new magazines like the *Forum* and the *Arena* sprung into instant success, but the old illustrated ones, like the *Century* and *Harper's*, have opened their pages to wider ranges of topics. The religious weeklies have entered more fully into secular discussions, while special periodicals, devoted to literature

or trade, to history or manufacture, to social economy and reforms, have become bewilderingly numerous. The public still accepts the guidance of its natural leaders, only the daily newspaper has parted with that part of the business, while other forms of publication have taken it up.

The daily paper cannot long stay what it now is. Its growth has been too mechanical, and while the daily production of 100 to 150 columns of newspaper is a marvel of manufacturing enterprise and organization, that alone cannot afford a permanent or solid basis of popularity. Indeed the morning paper has become wearisome, and the prospect that such gigantic publications are to continue long is appalling. They are unwieldy and inconvenient, requiring much time even to skim over the pages and examine the head-lines. No busy person can pretend to read them with regularity.

Expansion of this sort has brought with it the necessity of finding matter to fill up space. There are several ways in which this is done. An immense system of obtaining telegraphic news is in operation all over the world, and this news is gathered at distributing centres of great districts where it is virtually edited and prepared for publication. Again, the range of matter presented in the modern newspaper has been greatly enlarged, until base ball, horse racing, society notes, police records, scandals, women's dresses, private parties, and all kinds of sensational trivialities load the columns of the great dailies. Nor does this general scooping of every thing from the gutters of society, suffice. Reporting has come to be an art of padding. Whatever will lend itself in any way to sensationalism, a clever writer soon learns to turn into different lights, to dress with adjectives and to carry through every petty and collateral detail. Topics which, if worth mention at all, could be disposed of in a dozen lines, furnish material to be expanded into a column. As if these inflictions upon the reader's patience were not enough, journalistic ingenuity has found out a plan for repeating a large share of the news two or three times in the same issue.

On one page will appear a condensed summary of the news, which for the greater part of its contents is quite ample enough for its value. On another the same matter will be recorded in telegraphic or the reporter's column, and again the men on the editorial page will turn much of it into smart paragraphs.

Yet with all this expansion there has come an omission of subjects once deemed important, and certainly far more closely connected with the best side of human life than the matter which is printed. The reports of proceedings in the legislature and in Congress, in scientific meetings, charitable conferences, religious assemblies are epitomized to give place to ball-playing, prize-fighting, elopements, embezzlements. Book-reviewing, dramatic and art criticism, the movement of foreign politics, have all distinctly receded from the standard of a generation ago. If a man would try the experiment of foregoing the perusal of his morning newspaper for a week and substitute for it a good general weekly periodical or his church paper, he would discover at the end of the week that he had learned all the current history of mankind which it was worth his while to read or remember. Or if he will make a commonplace book and paste into it every clipping from his daily paper concerning events or things he would like to refer to again, he will soon perceive that nine-tenths of what his big newspaper prints for him to read is without any importance or interest.

The moral effects of the modern newspaper are also creating a reaction. Its flippancy and triviality are weakening to the mind that feeds upon it, impairing its power of sustained thought and application. They lower his taste. Again, they present a hugely distorted view of society. The horrible accidents of a world are spread before him, day by day; he is entertained with the swindles, the vices, and the crimes of the earth; his paper immerses him in all sorts of abnormal things. Such reading can only cease to pain him by hardening his heart and taking off the edge of his conscience. Writing on the contagion of crime, Havelock Ellis says: "There is ample and unquestionable evidence to show that a low-class literature in which the criminal is glorified, as well as the minute knowledge of criminal arts disseminated by newspapers, have a very distinct influence in the production of young criminals." If this kind of pabulum carries weak and impressionable people from their footing, it also and assuredly lowers the tone of stronger minds that become familiar with it.

Mechanical invention has had much to do with the development of the modern newspaper, not only in fixing its form and size, but in distinctly diverting its enterprise from brain work to fleetness of foot and contrivance. It was the elder Bennett who first set up the ideal of newspaper reporting as getting a "scoop," to use a term employed in news offices. That consists in publishing a bit of sensational news before any rival can get hold of it, and the important point is not whether the news has any value, but whether it is exciting and the enterprise of competitors is beaten. The telegraph made this kind of competition practicable and

cheap. Then, also, immense energy has been expended in the organization of a daily paper, and perfecting its communications and machinery, until a tremendous output of composition perverted the imagination. The contents of the journal became of less moment than the size of it. The growth has been extensive and not intensive.

That the modern newspaper has come to stay in its present form and spirit is utterly improbable. It has already upon it the marks of decadence, and will break from its own weight and intellectual weakness. What will replace it? In the first place there will come a shift from the idea of quantity to that of quality. If this is preëminently the age of the reporter, he will not be allowed to stay where he is, but must advance to the methods and standards of the editor. Such a change would differ from the "personal journalism" of thirty years ago in that then there was but little coöperation in a newspaper office between the editorial room and the other departments of the paper. The city, the telegraphic, the dramatic, the art, and the editorial departments were and still are under separate heads. Under such management a few reporters and special correspondents have risen on the ladder to responsible duty, but there is no methodical rule of advancement, no specialization of function for the writers. In due time there will be no separate rooms for these departments, but every editor will be a reporter and every reporter an editor or else in training for one, for everything published in the daily journal will be edited. Again the news gathered by telegraph, reporting, and correspondence will not be distributed in the columns of the paper according to the method of its collection, but according to its subject-matter. There will be a department for government which will include national, state, and municipal affairs, domestic and foreign; one on art and belles lettres, covering such ground as is now occupied by *The Critic* of New York; one on commerce and finance, one on sociological questions, embracing economics and charities; one on the religious world; and so on until the field is analytically divided. The departments named here are only suggestive, for they could be modified to suit the requirements of journalism. Over each division will be placed a strong man in intellect, well furnished with special information, and who keeps himself in practical contact with the events falling to the notice of his department. He will be responsible for the contents and form of everything appearing in his section of the paper, and be remunerated so generously that he need not feel the pinch of need nor restlessly be looking for better engagements. Each of these editorial reporters should have assistance from young writers, whom he would commission to gather news, and train to the mastery of his specialty with a view to future editorship. Thus will two strong tendencies of modern journalism be met in the coming newspaper, the specialist will take the place of the "all round man," and reporting will advance to a higher level.

Such a change of staff organization would involve a great alteration in the contents of a newspaper. Police news, betting amusements, society impertinences, scandals, and other offensive features of the big blanket sheets would shrink out of prominence and perhaps even of notice. Trivial locals would disappear. In their places the general and permanent interests of mankind would be registered day by day in an order easily surveyed, and with a continuity of thinking that would give each event in its relations to the progress of cities, states, and nations, and in the highest style of lucidity and condensation. Editing of this sort is by no means rare, and there are two examples of it near at hand, in the weekly news summaries of *The Nation* and *THE AMERICAN*. Suppose, for example, either of these papers, retaining its present ideals and standards, were to turn from a weekly into a daily, with something more of diversity and less of size in each issue, and there is a suggestion of the coming journal.

To the prevalent objection that high-class journalism will not pay in America there are several answers. In the first place it does pay in periodical literature. There never was a time when the weekly and monthly press was so prolific as it is now, nor when it was on a higher plane of excellence, nor when it was absorbed with so much avidity,—the best, whether among children or adults, being most popular.

But from the coming newspaper local subscriptions will fall away, and these large boasted circulations are local. That is true, no doubt, but the new journal will seek its patrons over a larger area. Such are the facilities of electric and steam-communication to-day, that the same newspaper could be published at the same morning hour in every city of the Atlantic coast from Washington to Boston, thus reaching a constituency of five millions of people. The stereotype plates of three-fourths of it could be made and shipped from the central office by six o'clock of each evening, and reach their destination in time for the press at one o'clock the next morning. The remaining fourth of the work can be furnished by telegraph or telephone and set up in each separate city. The economics of mechanical inventions can be wrought to

a higher efficiency than even journalism has yet carried them. Here we have a new differentiation. The present type of paper would not be ousted, but would remain as predominantly local. In a few instances it is possible that a great existing newspaper might take up the new lines of development; others would work the same fields they are now in, but with perhaps an improved style.

Practical men will say that this scheme would be destructive of advertising, upon which in these days of cheap papers, the profits of a daily journal chiefly depend. This by no means follows. On the contrary, a journal so published might greatly increase its advertising patronage. Advertisers would fall into two classes; those soliciting local attention, and those seeking the widest publicity. Each local branch of the organization could receive the former class and publish it on a sheet by itself for home distribution. The general class could be made to appear in each city simultaneously at increased charges, thus offering facilities similar to those of a newspaper syndicate.

This paper is merely a suggestion of the possibilities before us, but it seems to the writer as if they were more, and what is here conjectured will be fact in no remote future.

D. O. KELLOGG.

THE CIVILIZATION OF THE RENAISSANCE IN ITALY.¹

IT is ten or twelve years since the first edition of this admirable work was published; the present edition, from the third German, contains much additional matter, chiefly in notes, by the author, and by Dr. Ludwig Geiger. Students are already so familiar with the excellence of this book that they hardly need to be reminded of it, but that larger class of intelligent persons who desire information on the chief topics of human interest, yet who have not leisure for special and minute study of sources, cannot be too strongly recommended to acquaint themselves with Dr. Burekhardt's essay. And surely there are few other periods in modern history which so well repay examination as does the period of the Renaissance: our present civilization is the direct product of that regenerating movement which began in Italy in the fourteenth century and culminated there in the sixteenth. In almost every department of life and thought parallels can be drawn between our present scientific age and that age. In many cases we can follow to their inevitable conclusions symptoms which, under other names and their disguises, exist in society to-day; and if, as we believe, the highest benefit which history can give us is a knowledge of human nature whereby we can avoid the ruinous errors of the past, then is it true that the Renaissance can serve us most conspicuously as a warning and an example.

The fascination of that era was felt in the North long before the conditions themselves had been studied philosophically. Our dramatists turn to Italy for the plots of their plays, and the imagination of even Shakespeare could add nothing to the heights of heroism and depths of crime which were actual facts in Italian history. The possibilities for good and evil in human nature were illustrated not once only, but through many generations in the lives of the Italians. When, in our century, historians set to work to gather up into a consecutive and rational digest all those various and contradictory traits, they were bewildered: the facile standard by which they had assigned praise or blame to other epochs and nations, could not be used here. Many writers contented themselves with presenting only a single phase, or with the partisan advocacy of one of the many characteristics. The achievements of the Renaissance artists, for instance, was a favorite and splendid theme, to discuss which every canon of aesthetic criticism was employed, and in the discussion the old battles concerning the merits of particular schools or masters were fought over again. But gradually a profounder recognition of the significance of Art was reached: it was seen that the picture or the statue was not only the witness of the technical skill of the artist, but also the measure of his imagination, and, in a broad way, of his character. More than this, it was seen that the painter expressed not only his own individuality, but also the spirit of the time in which he lived. The Fine Arts, therefore, brought most valuable corroboration to the testimony given by chronicles and literature, and we may assert without hesitation that no one can competently discuss the Renaissance in Italy who is not familiar with the products of Italian art. They also furnish evidence of the startling contradictions of that time, and admonish us how hard, how almost impossible it is to judge a period or to set a true value on the achievements of a whole people.

Instead of trying to do this, Dr. Burekhardt has collected facts concerning every stratum of Italian life and set them forth clearly and impartially, leaving the reader to draw his own inference. He passes with unfaltering step from church to palace and

from palace to slum, and describes the kind of life peculiar to each, and this topical arrangement helps to concentrate the attention upon each phase in turn. In this respect his method differs from that of Mr. Symonds, whose popular work aims at the presentation of the Renaissance in historical sequence. Mr. Symonds is more diffuse, and to the ordinary reader his work, having more literary grace and more of the charm of a narrative, may be more interesting, but for the deeper purposes of historical study, Dr. Burekhardt's essay is the superior. It belongs to that small list of books, among which are De Tocqueville's, Lecky's, and Bryce's, which deal with results rather than with episodes. Only men of the greatest historical genius, like Tacitus and Carlyle, can fuse these two distinct elements of history into a living unit.

But the purpose of this notice is not to examine Dr. Burekhardt's work in detail,—it would require too much space for that,—it is rather to recommend this period of the Renaissance to the attention of new readers. The importance of the Renaissance cannot be overstated: then was made, to quote Michelet's fine summary, the discovery of man and the discovery of the world. Men came out of mediæval superstition, out of feudalism and serfdom, and for the first time began to study themselves in relation with nature, and to discern the position of the earth in relation to the cosmos. They were themselves but half-aware of the meaning of those discoveries which were destined to revolutionize society and its creeds. Even to-day, only the most enlightened men realize the extent of the change which the Renaissance spirit, still active throughout the civilized world, will bring to pass at last. The revival of antiquity supplied what the Middle Age had lacked,—another standard of life, by which the mediæval standard could be measured; from this comparison sprang up criticism, the sifting of the false from the true, and the inevitable emancipation of the intellect and the conscience. Mediæval man is but one of a multitude, one sheep in a vast herd; the man of the Renaissance is an individual, clearly defined by characteristics which belong to him and to none other. The change, described thus briefly, is the most momentous in the development of the human species; it indicates the passage from the dead level of the brutish monotony to the infinite possibilities of diversified human nature; it is the *sine qua non* of progress. The forces operative during the Renaissance made individualism the dominant characteristic of that change; but they were not strong enough to prevent individualism from degenerating into the most appalling selfishness, and finally destroying itself in madness. And herein the experience of the Renaissance in Italy can be of the utmost service to our own and after ages, in showing that, although individualism is indispensable to a high civilization, it will end in anarchy unless it be sublimed by the nobler motives of unselfishness and duty.

Dr. Burekhardt does well to entitle his essay "The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy," because his description embraces all the phases of life at that time. Civilization is a word often used, but seldom used precisely. Thus we speak carelessly of "our American civilization," meaning not the sum total of our conditions, but only the best of them; and in comparing our own with former periods, we are apt to confront our good qualities with their good and bad qualities. Obviously this is unjust. Only by taking everything into account could we form an accurate judgment, and that is hardly possible for contemporaries to do. The survey of a bygone period,—whose books are closed and whose evidence is all in,—warns us to be cautious in generalizing: it teaches us further how complex civilization is. Thus the Reformation, an offshoot of the Renaissance, diverted the attention of Protestant countries from the very remarkable Italian civilization: northern Protestants, having broken from the Italian religion, would not admit that any good could come out of Italy: and North and South suffered alike from this rupture. Insensibly, indeed, England, France, and Germany felt the influence which they strove to keep out; but it can hardly be questioned that had the theological antagonism been less vehement, all of those countries might have progressed more rapidly in civilization through the example of Italy. France, where the war of creeds was briefest, took the lead in European culture because she assimilated most from Italy; but the French at no time have filled out the full circle of culture as the Italians did, and the English, despite many strong and invaluable qualities, have been behind the French. The English have not yet wholly broken loose from the frosty hands of Puritanism, which checked the wide and uniform development of the English character just when it was blossoming in the Elizabethan spring-time,—that season when the Renaissance spirit was diffused throughout England.

But these considerations, and many more which Dr. Burekhardt's work stimulate, cannot be pursued farther here: merely to mention one or two of them must suffice to show how fruitful and how practical is any study of the Renaissance. That wonderful people of Italy, not exhausted by fixing a world-religion upon Christendom, nor by the creation of imperishable works in art and

¹ THE CIVILIZATION OF THE RENAISSANCE IN ITALY. By Jacob Burekhardt. Authorized translation by S. G. C. Middlemore. Macmillan & Co. 1890.

literature, was the first to respond to that modern spirit which now dominates our civilization, and to test and explore policies and paths which, until the epoch of the Renaissance, had been unknown to mankind.

W. R. T.

POETRY IN THE AUGUST MAGAZINES.

THE August number of the *Atlantic Monthly* has a particular interest for readers of verse, containing, as it does, long poems by Holmes and Whittier, and a fine imaginative sonnet by Annie Fields. Dr. Holmes's "The Broomstick Train," while perhaps a trifle slipshod in places, is a capital thing, and most ingeniously worked out. Who so likely as the whimsical Autocrat to connect the appearance of the slanting trolley-bearer, (or whatever may be its correct technical name), which is so conspicuous a part of the electric cars, with the idea of a visible broomstick belonging to an invisible witch? Everyone will want to read the whole of this admirable skit, so we will not spoil any first impressions by quoting from it.

Whittier's characteristic "Haverhill" verses are already so well known through their wide publication in the newspapers that it will not be necessary to devote much space to them. Touches of poetry gleam here and there among the lines, which in one instance show a faulty rhyme,—“oranges” being paired with “trees.” The last of the thirty-two stanzas contains an allusion to himself:

“The singer of a farewell rhyme,
Upon whose outmost verge of time
The shades of night are falling down,
I pray, God bless the good old town!”

Annie Field's sonnet may speak for itself:

FLAMMANTIA MÆNIA MUNDI.

I stood alone in purple space, and saw
The burning walls of the world like wings of flame
Circling the sphere. There was no break nor flaw
In those great fiery battlements, whence came
The spirits who had done with time and fate,
And all the playthings of earth's little hour.
I saw them pass; I knew them for the same,—
Mothers and brothers and the sons of power.

Yet they were changed; the fires of death had burned
Their perishable selves, and there remained
Only the pure white vision of the soul,—
The mortal part consumed, and quick returned
Ashes to ashes; while, unscathed, unstained,
The immortal passed beyond the earth's control.

In *Harper's Magazine* for August there is no new poem of great merit, but there is one old one, Wordsworth's grand outburst, "The World Is Too Much With Us," which compensates for the others' shortcomings. What a superb sonnet it is! gaining additional grace and beauty in this case from Alfred Parsons' striking illustrations. The best of the remaining verse contributions is undoubtedly Harriet Prescott Spofford's "The Under Life," a poem which recalls James Gates Percival's "The Coral Grove," though the latter is infinitely inferior in poetic sentiment and feeling.

She saw the sea-anemones
Parting their petals in each cleft,
And on the spangled floor the wreck
The pearly nautilus had left.

And fairy fountains in the sea,
She saw the live sponge playing there,
And passing, sighed for very joy
Of life and beauty everywhere.

Long since into those pleasant depths
Swam lightly forth the new-born sponge,
Glad of his life far underneath
The long wave's melancholy plunge.

His powers, the shadow of his needs,
Answered no touch of outer storms,
No sound of slipping keels above,
No light of over-leaning forms.

And nothing sketched on his dark wont
Hint of the rhythmic rower's grace,
Hint of the child that o'er him shed
The lovely shining of her face,—

The ripple swelled, light fell the oar,
Her hand trailed where the bubbles swim;
She passed,—the dull sponge never knew
That such a being smiled on him!

Such is Mrs. Spofford's poem condensed to one-third its original length. It should be read in its entirety if its full beauty is

to be grasped. "To an Old Apple Tree," by Cates Kinney, shows good intention but rather indifferent execution. There are some artistic touches, however, as in the following stanza:

"The bluebird's warble mellow
Returns like memory and calls thy name,
And, as first love, the oriole's plumage yellow
Burns through thy shade like flame."

But compare the last two lines with the following quatrain from Maurice Thompson's "The Blue Heron," in which "oriole" is to be pronounced with three syllables:

"And from the thorn it loves so well,
The oriole flings out its strong,
Sharp lay, wrought in the crucible
Of its flame-circled soul of song."

"An Impression," a bit of graceful word-painting with Greece for its subject, by Rennell Rodd, "Westward," a very short poem by John B. Tabb, and verses by John Kendrick Bangs and Bissell Clinton in the "Drawer," complete the list.

The August *Scribner's*, while distinctively a fiction number, has three poems, the best of which is Andrew Lang's exquisite "A Dialogue":

LUI.

Oh, have you found the Fount of Youth,
Or have you faced the Fire of Kôr?
Or whence the form, the eyes, the mouth,
The voice, the grace we praised of yore?
Ah, lightly must the years have sped,
The long, the labor-laden years,
That cast no snows upon your head,
Nor dim your eyes with any tears!
And gently must the heart have beat,
That, after many days, can send
So soft, so kind a blush to greet
The advent of so old a friend.

ELLE.

Another tale doth it repeat,
My mirror; and it tells me true!
But Time, the thief of all things sweet,
Has failed to steal one grace from you.
One touch of youth he cannot steal,
One trait there is he leaves you yet;
The boyish loyalty, the leal
Absurd, impossible regret!
These are the magic: these restore
A phantom of the April prime,
Show you the face you liked of yore,
And give me back the thefts of Time!

Very lovely, we call this poem, "The Sisters' Tragedy" is another of Mr. Aldrich's studies in Old English life, though the subject might just as well have been given a modern setting. It is with real regret that we see so strong a leaning toward the use of un-American and rather conventional materials in one whom we have learned to admire for a certain distinct individuality apparent in his work. This individuality appears to be less marked in many of Mr. Aldrich's later poems, particularly in those which are the result of his studies in Elizabethan literature. One "Spring in New England" is, in our opinion, worth a score of these imitations of earlier poets.

G. Melville Upton's illustrated poem, "The Season's Boon," strikes us as being thin and commonplace; though perhaps, if the author's idea were brought out a little more clearly, it might seem better. Emily Dickinson's "Renunciation" we do not like, and we believe that it will give offense to others as well.

There are twelve pieces of verse in the August *Century*, three of which are by Frank Dempster Sherman, who, in one of the three, has written a very graceful poem indeed. The first half of "Attainment" must suffice for its representation here:

"From the marble of his thought
Are the poet's fancies wrought
Into forms of symmetry,
Into rhyme and melody;
Not by any magic feat
Comes the statue forth complete;
Only patient labor, long,
Can create the perfect song;
Only love that does not tire
Can attain its high desire,—
Love that deems no gift of time
Wasted, so it win the rhyme
One elusive word to start
Life within the lyric's heart."

The other two, "Under a Balcony," a love lyric, and "Perpetuity," a sonnet, are both finished specimens of the poet's art. Harriet Prescott Spofford's "The Making of The Pearl," while in many ways similar to her poem in *Harper's*, pleases us less because it appeals less to the heart and more to the intellect. The natural history of both poems seems to be quite trustworthy.

We hardly know what to say about Edith M. Thomas's odd

poem ("They Said.") We presume there are precedents for this sort of thing, in fact we recall something similar in Sidney's poems; but where Sir Philip's verses are sunshine and spring-water, Miss Thomas's are clouds and mire so far as lucidity is concerned. We do wish Miss Thomas would drop her present obscure, affected style and give us something like that page of beauty which the *Century* (or was it still *Scribner's* at the time?) printed so long ago. It is refreshing to read a poem which sings itself to you as does Bliss Carmen's "Marian Drurie," from which we would gladly quote did space permit. "A Song of Growth," by Charles G. D. Roberts, is hardly as successful as most of his recent poems. "Guilielmus Rex," already familiar to readers of *THE AMERICAN*, is one of Aldrich's characteristic bits, very smooth, graceful, and picturesque. All the verses in *Bric-a-Brac* are good, their authors being Virginia Frazer Boyle, John Kendrick Bangs, Margaret Vandegrift, and M. E. W. Miss Wardwell's "Experientia Docet," we think the brightest.

"Cupid, the rogue, once ran away,
And ere Dame Venus missed him
Slipped down into the lilac lane,
Where Betty caught and kissed him.
She broke his saucy bow in twain,
Tied up his wings behind him,
And sent him sobbing home again
To bid his mother mind him.

"But since that day, so gossips say,
The gods have new equipped him,
Till he is twenty times as gay
As when my lady clipped him;
And now although she nods and beckons
With sweet persuasion to him,
She cannot get another chance
To cuff him or to woo him!"

Lippincott's for this month gives first place to a sequel to Elizabeth Stoddard's "A Unit," so highly praised by us last month. "Zanton—my Friend" is an equally strong and finished poem, and shows wonderful vigor and freshness of expression. "Veiled," by Margaret Vandegrift, is quite a serious poem for the author of so many light and airy verses, and is a striking bit of work. "Ebb and Flow," by H. W. F., does not particularly impress us, neither does Charles H. Crandall's sonnet "Woman" seem to us as good as most of those from his pen that have been printed from time to time; but "The Pale Cast of Thought," by Owen Wister, a well-known Philadelphian, strikes us as being unusual in some ways, and we will therefore reprint it:

"There was a task for me, and I arose
To meet it, for it stood before me clear:
In the night watches I had heard it close
Beside the pillow, whispering in my ear.

"But in the morning other whispers came,
Blowing this way and that, until I grew
Full of all doubt, and nothing seemed the same:
So I lost sight of that I had to do;
Light reasonings decoyed me, one by one,
And then the sun set with my task not done.

"Then did I know how I had lived in vain,
And clearly see my steps had turned astray;
For there be paths that in the dark lie plain,
Yet grow invisible when shines the day."

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE weather has not been conducive to the thorough appreciation of the Drama, but Mr. Boucicault's play, "The Tale of a Coat," produced this week at the Arch Street Theatre, demands notice, not only as the work of a playwright of international celebrity, but as being in itself a piece of construction of unusual artistic merit. We are not forgetful of "London Assurance" and the many successes which followed it, when we say that it is doubtful whether Mr. Boucicault has done anything better than "The Tale of a Coat." Its comedy is of that subtle quality which, while remaining distinctly true to the fundamental canons of comedy, verges continually upon a pathos at once natural and delicate. There is no sensationalism, no striving for effects which dazzle only to disappoint, none of the realism which is never real. The play moves on lines of human life and human probability, and the story has a purpose which, without didacticism, is strongly impressed because strongly handled.

Jemmy Watts, the tailor, is one of those noble and self-sacrificing characters which represent an existent type; he is good but human; we recognize him as a possibility,—not as the incarnation of an angel; and in the hands of Mr. Russell the strong and simple humanity of the part is brought out with admirable clearness, and with a delicacy all too rare in these days when the appeal is usually rather to the eye than to the heart.

AN essayist in the *Boston Writer* remarks that had Shakespeare ever experienced the woes of a rejected contributor, he never would have asked: "What's in a name?" He would have discovered that, with the magazines, almost everything is in a name. We all remember Lord Byron's pithy remark on the subject, and it is much more true in our day than it was in his. The *Writer* essayist goes on to show how rubbish will pass muster under cover of a well-known signature, by dissecting the verbal structure of a recent quite successful novel by two well-known writers, to wit Mr. and Mrs. Ward's "The Master of the Magicians." He shows, as he thinks, such a mass of bad grammar, false construction, and outlandish sentences, to say nothing of verbal anachronisms, as would put to blush a school-boy with his early "compositions." In periodical literature the case, if not worse, is certainly more common. Merit must stand aside that the refuse of famous pens may find a place. Doubtless there is justice in the complaint; but it is always dangerous to protest, lest the protestant be set down as a disgruntled rhymester whose last "poem" came back to him with the usual neatly-printed slip, so hopelessly definite in its import and so detestably polite in its phraseology. It is probable that, in the long run, distinctive merit gets its due, but it must be distinctive. We suspect that the real reason why the magazines have ceased to be standards of taste is to be found in the fact that they are written by specialists and read by "men of affairs." As remarked in this column a few weeks ago, there is no public demand for the literary stylist, and there is danger that he will become an extinct species, unless people tire of mechanical, mercantile, and geographical detail, served up in slipshod English, with an accompaniment of diagrams and maps.

* * *

THE one thing needed to give a "boom" to Tolstoi's "The Kreutzer Sonata" has been obligingly furnished by Assistant Attorney-General Tyner, upon whose opinion is based the order to exclude the book from the United States mails. Really, the game is not worth the candle. "The Kreutzer Sonata" is too silly to be either immoral or obscene; it contains none of that suggestiveness which tends to evil, and none of that power which could make it dangerous. It is simply coarse and brutal, and its references are to a state of society of which we in this country have been wholly ignorant. The work is a pitiable example of the ridiculous attitude in which a man with a hobby usually places himself unless he knows when to draw the rein. Indeed an author who puts himself on record as recognizing no difference between the vilest passions of mankind and the holiest of human emotions, leads us to infer that his own moral sense is either blunt or twisted.

It would have been wiser to let "The Kreutzer Sonata" alone. Why advertise lunacy?

* * *

FELICIA HOLT, an interesting writer in the *Ladies' Home Journal*, has an article in the August number of that periodical in which she directs attention to the demoralizing tendencies of sea-bathing as at present practiced at the sea-shore resorts. Not only the indelicacies of costume, but many other customs which fashion sanctions, are severely condemned and, we believe, condemned none too strongly. It is indeed one of the extraordinary phases of social convention that modes and acts which would be intolerable in a drawing-room are regarded by a great number of good people as quite *comme il faut* on a beach. Perhaps if we had a few more writers like Felicia Holt, we should have fewer people whose sense of propriety is gauged solely by the regulation usage.

We incline, however, to the belief that there has been a growing realization of the fact that the system of promiscuous surf-bathing is open to grave criticism, and that it must be regarded as of very doubtful propriety for persons who respect themselves. Of course, the English usage, which we have been accustomed to think prudish, is all against it, and it is well known that in the shore resorts of the *haut monde*, like Newport, there practically is no surf-bathing at all. Even at Long Branch, a "mixed" place, there is little. The temper of the democracy on the subject is shown at places like Atlantic City, and while the good fellowship of democratic crowds in the surf is all very well, there are coarse people, always, in such a crowd, and coarse manners with equal certainty.

* * *

IF reports be true, the good offices of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals might well be extended to the management of business at the Abattoir, where, it is asserted, great inhumanity is shown in the slaughtering of cattle. Apart from humane considerations, there is every reason why the infliction of death should be as sure and as painless as it is possible to make it, and in this view the use of electricity naturally suggests itself. The curious case of the murderer Kemmler has brought the matter of electrocution prominently before the public, and

whatever objection may have existed to such a method of inflicting the sentence of the law upon criminals cannot apply to the work of the Abattoirs where there are no sentimental traditions to be consulted, and where certainty, celerity, and painlessness are the prime considerations.

SUMMER music in the parks, formerly looked upon asavoring too much of Continental Europe to be in accord with our stricter notions, has lately grown in popular favor, and now appears to be one of the recognized amusements which it is legitimate for cities to provide at the public expense. It is insisted that the sentiment which demands music is a healthy one, and no doubt it is true that a music-loving community is usually an orderly community. People have to reach a certain degree of education before the love of harmony makes itself felt as one of the moving forces in daily life, and there is perhaps no form of art more directly refining. The daily performances in Fairmount Park and elsewhere are very popular, too, and if results could be gotten at, it is likely that the cost is saved several times over through the decrease in disorderly and demoralizing forms of amusement. Of course the general character of the music rendered must be "popular," but it is not too much to ask that a certain proportion of the numbers should be of the higher order,—only a small proportion at first, but an increasing one as the listeners' ears become educated. In this way the standard of public capacity and appreciation can be surely and steadily elevated. In a little while classical compositions, from being endured, will come to be relished and at last eagerly desired; the comprehension of melody leads to that of harmony, and so the demand for a mere "tune" may be guided into appreciation of the work which is really enduring. When this point shall have been reached a great civilizing force will have been set in motion.

THOSE who do not follow in the train of Mr. Swinburne will be rather pleased to hear that he has committed the indiscretion of printing a poem,—in the *Fortnightly Review*,—which is regarded as inciting to the murder of the Czar of Russia. For such a thing must put him out of the running for the laureateship, in case of the death of Tennyson. It is true that for years past he has reformed his manners and morals, and no longer sins after the fashion of the first series of his "Poems and Ballads." He even has posed to some extent as the poet of British conservatism and an opponent of Gladstone and Home Rule. This has caused a disposition to condone his "sensuous caterwauling," as Huxley once called it. But if he has been encouraging the Nihilists to "remove" their sovereign, it hardly will be possible for the Queen to honor him in this way. Possibly the poem was incited by the contrasts the newspapers have been drawing between his Garibaldi and his Balfour poetry.

It will not be an easy matter to select Tennyson's successor. "Who shall come after the king?" If Browning had lived, the problem would not have presented any difficulty. It is true that no possible choice can put the office upon a poorer poet than some who have held it in times past. But since Wordsworth and Tennyson it has become the tradition to require a really great poet for the place, and also to dispense with the requirement of "birth-day odes." It is said that her majesty has a preference for Mr. Lewis Morris, who might be described as a Tennyson without his inspiration. She might do worse than give it to Prof. Palgrave, whose "Visions of England" is a very remarkable series of imaginative studies of English history, and just in the line of a laureate's duties. But if it is to go to the poet of the finest genius, then it belongs to Christina Rossetti, who ranks next to Tennyson among the living poets of England.

STUDIES IN PENNSYLVANIA POLITICS.

THE SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.

THE five Congressional districts of Philadelphia present material for a special study. The Sixth district is composed of the counties of Chester and Delaware. Both are counties of more than average intelligence: Chester rises in this respect to the highest mark in the State, though there may be one or two other counties not surpassed by her. Her people are steady, industrious, and prosperous. With some manufactures of importance, especially at Phoenixville and Coatesville, the general avocation is agriculture, and with a generous soil, a near market, and family accumulations, a very large percentage of the men of Chester county are not tempted to sell their suffrage, or inclined to submit their manhood to unclean politicians. Delaware county, originally a piece of the same stuff, and of the same general character, is less favorable to clean politics. It has a large manufacturing population: along the several streams which flow into the Delaware from among its hills, there are scores of factories, crowded with operatives, and at Chester and in its neighborhood there are ex-

tensive ship-yards, iron-works, and textile mills. The farmers of Delaware county are therefore not so nearly in control as their fellows in the adjoining county, and the percentage of independence, though good, is not so large. The manufacturing "operatives" have an element among them which is open to the wiles of unscrupulous leaders, as well as to the temptations of money, and they have, of course, a larger proportion of the unsettled and unemployed, who have not that "stake" in the community which makes it at once stable and independent.

The history of politics in this district for ten years past has been one of much disturbance. There was, up to 1880, a steady growth of the Republican majority in Chester county, and in Delaware, when the Tariff issue has been involved, it has continued to increase. The majorities of the two counties, in the five important election years have been:

	Chester.	Delaware.
1880, President,	3,774	2,535
Congress,	3,847	2,673
1882, Governor,	1,423	758
Congress,	2,853	1,952
1884, President,	3,783	2,974
Congress,	3,720	3,322
1886, Governor,	3,597	2,376
Congress,	4,292 ¹	1,986 ¹
1888, President,	4,037	3,763
Congress,	2,689	3,811

These figures indicate to some degree the mutations of the Republican vote. But they do not disclose the whole. In 1880 the vote for General Garfield, and that for Mr. Ward, for Congress, was the normal strength of the united party. In 1882 the majority for Governor was reduced two-thirds by the independent voting for Mr. Stewart, and the majority for the Congressman also suffered seriously. But in 1884, the majority for Mr. Blaine rose to the highest figures ever known, and, what was curious, Mr. Everhart, the candidate for Congress, had a still larger majority. In 1886, the Republicans of Chester county split, and presented two candidates for Congress,—Mr. Everhart, who had served two terms, and Mr. Darlington, who had contested with him for the party nomination, in 1882 and 1884, and who had technically won it in the convention of this year (1886). It was the preceding contests which had led up to this split: there had been a strenuous revolt against the alleged methods of Mr. Darlington. It was charged that he had corrupted the party, and had abandoned the time-honored usages of an open and fair competition. Without saying, here, that these charges were true, it is certain that many Republican voters in Chester county, and some in Delaware county, believed them, so that the three-sided canvass of 1876 was very earnest, and the feeling awakened by it very intense, and Mr. Everhart received in Chester county, though not the "regular candidate," 4,239 votes, against 6,256 for Mr. Darlington. In 1888 the struggle was renewed, but the death of Mr. Everhart, shortly before the election, ended it in that shape, though its effect was shown in the diminished majority for Mr. Darlington in Chester county, 2,689, as against 4,037 given General Harrison.

But a "kick" quite as vigorous as that on Congress, and more effective, was made in 1886, in the election of members of the Legislature. One of the Republican candidates, Mr. Baum, (since dead), was not satisfactory to many of the party, and while Governor Beaver received 3,597 majority, and the other three Republican candidates were elected by large majorities, one Democrat, William Evans, was chosen over Baum by over 700 majority.

In 1889 Chester county elected the Democratic candidate for Associate Law Judge, Mr. Hemphill. His majority was under a hundred, but at the same time the majority for the Republican candidate for State Treasurer was over 3,000.

The independent voting in this district has therefore been chiefly in Chester county, and has been shown in the Governorship contest of 1882; in the Congressional split of 1886, in the defeat of Baum by Evans, the same year; and in the election of the Democratic candidate for Judge, in 1889. Delaware county joined in the Gubernatorial break of 1882, and had also that year two Independent Republican candidates for the Legislature, who received 1,376 and 1,779 votes respectively.

There are two questions now sharply pending in the Sixth district. The first of these is the endorsement of the Quay-Delamater conspiracy: the second is the election of Mr. John B. Robinson, who has secured the formal nomination of the Delaware county Republicans for Congress. As to the former there is a general and strong feeling, and the number of Republicans who will either vote directly for Mr. Pattison, or simply cut Mr. Delamater, is large. To vote an approval of Mr. Quay would be, it is well understood, an approval of the very political methods against which so earnest a protest has been made in the past, and would

¹ In 1886, two Republican candidates were in the field: their vote has been consolidated in this statement. The plurality of the higher (Darlington) over the Democratic candidate was but 53 in Chester, and 1,159 in Delaware.

cast a cloud of doubt on the sincerity of those who demanded clean and honest procedure. Chester county was strongly for General Hastings for Governor, and his friends there understand, of course, the means by which his defeat was accomplished.

The Congressional contest turns upon substantially the same issue. Mr. "Jack" Robinson is charged with spending a very large sum,—even so much as \$40,000,—to corrupt the recent Republican primary election in Delaware county. His methods, and his whole attitude toward politics, are regarded as being the same as those which were alleged as the occasion for the tremendous contests of 1884 and 1886. Mr. Robinson has a large majority, apparently, behind him, but when such changes are possible as those which elected William Evans, in 1886, and Judge Hemphill in 1889, it is evident that great majorities may disappear.

X. X.

REVIEWS.

BIBLE STUDY: The Calvinistic Doctrine of Election and Reprobation no Part of St. Paul's Teachings. By John Andrews Harris, S. T. D., of the University of Pennsylvania. Rector of St. Paul's Church, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. Philadelphia: Porter & Coates.

THE interest excited by the discussion of the proposal to revise the Westminster Confession of Faith led Dr. Harris to take up the question of the Apostle Paul's teaching on the point of Election, not as meddling with a dispute in another communion of Christians, but because the doctrine in question is one which has adherents in different religious bodies, and is in some sort taught in the seventeenth Article of his own Church, although he thinks that "in its final statement it dodges the issue and nullifies its preceding statement." We think Dr. Harris misunderstands the language of the "final statement," which is a reference to the Augustinian conception of a secret and a revealed will of God, the former being concerned with the election of individuals to life or death eternal, while the other is the declaration of his general demands on men to obey the divine law. Its language is: "Furthermore, we must receive God's promises in such wise as they be generally (*generaliter*) set forth to us in Holy Scripture; and in our doings that Will of God is to be followed, which we have expressly declared unto us in the Word of God." So far from making the Calvinism of the article less stringent than that of the Westminster Confession, this brings out what was thought the most objectionable feature of its teaching and one which the Westminster divines ignored. They do not require any one to assent to the distinction between the revealed and the secret will of God.

As to the general tenor of the Articles we may quote the language of Rev. John Hunt, an English Episcopalian, who certainly has no Calvinistic prejudices. In his "History of Religious Thought in England" (Vol. III., pp. 297-98), he says of Toplady's "Historical Proof of the Doctrinal Calvinism of the Church of England" that "it never was answered, and never can be answered. It demonstrates by a chain of evidence, every link of which is sound, that Calvin's doctrine, in clear and definite form, is the doctrine of the Articles and the Homilies, and that for many years after the Reformation everything opposed to it was immediately condemned by the authorities of the Church. . . . Waterland had called Arian subscription, as advocated by Dr. Clark, a dishonest subscription; but Toplady proved that it was not more dishonest than that of any Anti-Calvinist."

Dr. Harris seems to labor under a misapprehension on another point. He contrasts with the Presbyterian "Confession of Faith" the brevity of the Apostles' Creed, as that "confession of faith" the reception of which "gives admission with us to Holy Baptism, the Confirmation, to the Holy Communion,—in other words, to the fullest membership in the Church, with all its privileges." It is a fair inference from these words that he assumes that Presbyterians require an assent to some elaborate creed, presumably the Westminster Confession, of those who are received "to the fullest membership in the Church, with all its privileges." This is not the case. The Confession of Faith, like the Articles of Religion, exists only for the clergy of the Church, including the ruling-elders; the membership have nothing to do with it. There is no specified form of confession required of members, but we do not think any church-session would exclude any one who would subscribe the Apostles' Creed.

The main point of the study is to show that the Epistle to the Romans does not teach any doctrine of absolute and personal election to everlasting life, but only such an election to spiritual privileges and educational opportunities as constituted the election of the Jewish nation under the Old Testament. He admits that if the proof-text method of dealing with the Scriptures be used, *i. e.*, if passages may be sundered from the general course of the argument and considered apart from the whole tenor of the reasoning, there is a possibility of extracting Calvinism from that Epistle.

Into the merits of the question we naturally cannot enter. But we do not think that any discussion of texts or Epistles disposes of the question, in view of the constant recurrence of this form of faith in nearly all religions.

A SOCIAL DEPARTURE: How Orthodocia and I went Round the World by Ourselves. By Sarah Jeannette Duncan. New York: D. Appleton & Co.

It requires some courage, it must be admitted, to write a new book of travel. Going around the world, and writing long accounts of it, have become so common that we look with a suspicious eye upon thick volumes with a gilded globe or an ocean steamer stamped on the cover. Yet, after all, it is all in the writer. Travel is by no means so hackneyed a subject as love, and yet we still read romances, and call for more. And as long as the author of "A Social Departure" holds so pleasant a pen, she will find many ready to sit in their libraries or on their porches and travel around the world in her company.

The two heroines—an English and an American girl—start westward from Montreal, over the Canadian Pacific Railway to Vancouver,—stopping at Winnipeg to visit a relative, and make there a beginning of the thread of romance which runs pleasantly through the story; across the Pacific to Japan, then, skipping China, to Ceylon, India, Arabia, Egypt, and by Malta and Gibraltar to England. The "social departure" is merely in their going alone and "unprotected"; but, as they never leave the great highways of travel, this will not be considered a remarkable achievement,—especially since the exploits of Nelly Bly and Miss Bisland. It is not the daring of the travelers, or anything wonderful in their deeds, but the spirit and fun with which these are told, that makes the book pleasing. The thoroughness of British preparation for travel is entertainingly set forth.

"I have said," says the volume, (page 3), "that Orthodocia arrived in Montreal prepared for a trip round the world. This, considering her baggage, is an inadequate statement. It would have taken her comfortably through the universe with much apparel to spare, I should say, on a rough estimate. There were two long attenuated boxes, and two short apoplectic ones. There was a small brown hair trunk, and a large black tin case. There was a collection of portmanteaux, and a thing she called a despatch-box. There were two tin cylinders containing millinery, I believe. And there was a sitz bath-tub,—a beautiful, round, shining, symmetrical sitz bath-tub. There is no use in concealing the fact that in the course of my long, serious, private conversation with the drayman offering the lowest contract for removing Orthodocia's luggage, I enjoined him carefully to lose that sitz bath, and he did."

The encounter of the two travelers with a Japanese reporter reads marvelously like a chapter from "Innocents Abroad,"—only that it is funnier. The trip from Cairo to the obelisk at Heliopolis on donkey-back is fully as laughable. Orthodocia got the words for "Stop!" and "Faster!" mixed up, and a wild race ensued, which finally landed the young lady on the sand. The trip on camel-back to the Pyramids is equally graphic. She says:

"I put the revolver in my pocket, and beckoned to the camel-boys reassuringly. I found an approximately clean place near one camel's shoulder, and patted him on it. Presently I saw him looking at me from the other end of his neck, and desisted. In the meantime the camel-boys came up."

"How are you going to get on?" Orthodocia inquired.

"He will come down," I responded confidently. "He will bring his upper flats to the ground floor. I've seen them do it."

"Well," said Orthodocia, "I should certainly come off."

"I sighed heavily. 'I will not coerce you, Orthodocia,' said I, 'but I cannot lose the opportunity, occurring perhaps once in a life-time, of riding the ship of the desert over his native element! Bring him down!' to the camel boy."

"If you care to ascertain accurately how that camel came down, I must ask you to look in your book of natural history. Orthodocia and I cannot agree upon the matter. She says he took his back legs down first, and I am almost certain he folded up his front ones and sat down on them, as it were, before he effected any rearrangement to the rear. It is not a point upon which there ought to be any difference of opinion among commentators; however, you will have no difficulty in settling it for yourself. He came down in sections, at all events, and it took him some little time, during which Orthodocia vacillated. I took no notice of her vacillation, but calmly sat down upon the sheepskins which formed his saddle. The camel looked round and told me to get off, but I would not. 'Send him up!' said I to the elevator-boy—as we say in America—in attendance."

"The boy went through one formula, and camel went through another. I can't describe it, because of the same difference of opinion between Orthodocia and me about the order of his going up, as about the order of his coming down. I know that there were two angles of forty-five degrees and a remarkably sudden transition from one to the other, together with such a rise in the world as it had not been my lot to experience before. But when I reached the climax, and looked down upon Orthodocia in the sand below, from the camel's third story, the sensation was delightful."

Perhaps the book is too full of fun. The serious-minded may say that it is shallow and flippant and uninstructional. True, it does not give us historical sketches and homilies about preserving the greatness of the British empire, such as we get from Mr. Froude; but we do not miss them. It is a rapid, graphic, in-

teresting story of travel, told by a woman with a large vein of humor; and if it is never deep, it makes up for that defect by being never dull.

DEUTSCHE LITERATURGESCHICHTE AUF KULTURHISTORISCHER GRUNDLAGE. For Universities, Colleges, and Academies. By Carla Wenckebach, Professor in Wellesley College. (Heath's Modern Language Series). Buch I: Die Altdutsche Zeit bis 1100 nach Christus. Boston: D. C. Heath & Co.

Prof. Wenckebach aims at furnishing American students with a better apparatus for the historical study of the German language and literature than is accessible in books specially adapted to their use. Should the whole work be carried out in the careful and satisfactory way illustrated in this first part, we think she will have conferred a real boon on American students. She connects the history of the language with that of the people, and begins with a brief summary of what we know of them before they emerge into literary history. She even gives the words of the Roman inscription in which the name "Germani" first appears, and an analysis of the "Germania" of Tacitus. Then follows an account of the Runic alphabet, and of the alliterative "stabreim" in which the oldest German poetry is written. The remains of the heathen time are found in the Merseburg prayer, in Beowulf, in the song of Hildebrand and the Eddas. She claims that the former is German first of all, although classed as Old English; and in the Eddas she finds the records of the oldest beliefs of the undivided German race. She pays no attention to the criticism of the contents of the poetic Edda by Sophus Bugge, and none to the evidence adduced by Vigfusson that most of it was written neither on the Continent nor in Iceland, but in the Orkneys and the Hebrides. And on this catholic principle of seeking information about the Germans without regard to language, why not include also Jordanis, Paul the Deacon, Saxo the Grammarian, and the Knyttlinga-Saga? All these are sources for the heathen period.

The Christian period, of course, begins with Ulphilas, and the transition from the old faith to the new, and the historic conditions in the Frankish kingdom, down to the separation of Germany from France are traced. The northern Christian monuments begin with the Wessobrunn prayer, the Muspilli song, and the remarkable epic narrative of the Gospel story called the "Heliand," in which the life of the Saviour is presented in German dress. The "Krist" of Otfried is probably contemporary, but far less interesting and original. After the song of Ludwig there comes a period of Latin treatment of German themes, represented by the spirited epic "Waltharius" and the comedies of Roswitha. With the eleventh century there is a return to German speech, although the monks at St. Gall, besides the translations and expositions here mentioned, did much work in the department of Latin sequence writing, which should have been referred to.

The second part of the book is occupied with specimens which extend from the Merseburg formula of incantation to the Wessobrunn creed, showing the development of German proper from 300 to 1100. The old German and a modern German translation are given generally on opposite pages, and altogether the selection is judicious and instructive. The shorter documents, such as the "Muspilli," the "Hildebrand's song," the song of Ludwig, are given complete, while from the "Heliand" and the "Krist," extracts are furnished.

AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS.

AMONG the Americans recently in Hamburg, says a note to THE AMERICAN, have been Miss M. Carey Thomas, Dean of the Faculty of Bryn Mawr College, and Mr. Charles G. Leland. The latter is soon to bring out a new book on Gipsy Sorcery, etc., his publisher being Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, London.

Mrs. Louise Phillips and Mrs. Aubertine Woodward Moore, two well-known literary workers, residing at Madison, have begun the compilation of a work which will contain a collection of stories, sketches, and poems by Wisconsin writers. The book will be an octavo, and will contain 500 pages. More than 100 writers will be represented in its pages. The introductory chapter will give a brief history of literature in Wisconsin, and in addition there will be a directory of Wisconsin writers.

Judge Mellen Chamberlain, librarian of the Boston Public Library, has resigned on account of ill health. Mr. Chamberlain entered on his duties October 1, 1878. Mr. Chamberlain's immediate complaint is nervous prostration. The death of his wife, to whom he was devoted, increased his nervous troubles, and overwork in literary fields has aggravated his disease.

A new and pleasing profession for the imaginative, or for men "having knowledge of adventures," is suggested by an advertise-

ment in the London *Athenæum*. "Experienced writers of fiction (ladies especially) may be supplied with new materials of an exciting and romantic character." Here is an opening, says a writer in the *Daily News*, for "persons who have seen the world, or who, while they possess unbounded fancy, are too indolent or too unskilled to write. They have only to sell their facts or fancies, which may be purchased by authors, especially ladies, whose own imagination or experience is limited."

The temporary injunction against Solomon Zickel, restraining him from publishing in the United States a German version of "In Darkest Africa," has now been made permanent.

The *Critic* has had some protest against making its National Academy entirely of men. A correspondent writes to suggest that if none of the forty will resign their crowns in favor of certain of our American literary sisterhood, it should open the polls again for the election by its readers of "Forty Immortelles." At the same time, one of the nine newly elected "Immortals" writes: "Your Academy ought to include women, and I will gladly resign my place in it to one of the fair writers who have a much better claim to it."

Messrs. Scribner & Welford announce that with a view of meeting authorized reprints of G. A. Henty's "With Clive in India," "One of the 28th," and "In the Reign of Terror," they will publish neat and cheap editions of these books.

John Mackintosh, a learned shoemaker and bibliophile of Aberdeen, is writing a history of Scotland for the "Story of the Nations" series.

Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson will probably return to London in October. About that time he will completely wind up his affairs in Scotland. He intends, it is now said, to sell off his house furniture, carry his books with him, and fix his home permanently in Samoa. His island estate is said to be very lovely, with no less than six waterfalls on it.

By her will, Mrs. Emily Pfeiffer, the well-known English poet, who died recently, bequeaths, with the exception of a few legacies, the whole of her personal estate of £63,000 to charitable and educational establishments for women.

Dr. W. J. Rolfe, the Shakespearian editor, has sailed for Europe, to be absent a couple of months.

At the unveiling of a bust of Sidney Lanier in the Public Library at Macon, Georgia, on the evening of Oct. 17, Judge Bleckley of the Georgia Supreme Court will deliver an address, and a poem will be read by William H. Hayne, well known to the readers of THE AMERICAN, as an occasional contributor in verse and prose to its columns.

"Few persons know," says the New York *Sun*, "that Hamilton Gibson began his artistic career on the *American Agriculturist*. Nearly twenty years ago he was a young man in the employment of that paper, and one of his earliest accepted sketches was a branch of trailing arbutus, which appeared as an illustration in the early '70s."

Friedrich Spielhagen's autobiography, published by L. Staackmann, of Leipzig, under the title of "Finder und Erfinder: erinnerungen aus meinem leben," has just been completed. The author, it has been recently reported, was lying dangerously ill of typhoid fever in Berlin.

The J. B. Lippincott Co. will publish immediately "In and Out of Book and Journal," selected and arranged by Dr. A. Sydney Roberts, and illustrated by S. W. Van Shaick; and a new edition of "Gleanings for the Curious from the Harvest Fields of Literature," collated by C. C. Wombough. In fiction they have ready "O Thou, My Austria," an adaptation by Mrs. Wister from the German of Ossip Schubin; "A Diplomat's Diary," by Julien Gordon, and "Disenchantment," by F. Mabel Robinson. The new "Library Edition" of the works of William H. Prescott is now completed by the publication of the twelfth volume. A valuable work is W. Santo Crimp's "Sewage Disposal Works," with tables, illustrations, and plates; and a pretty children's story, by Annie R. Butler, is entitled the "Promised King." Early in September the house will have ready a fifth edition of "Garretson's System of Oral Surgery;" a seventh edition of Da Costa's "Medical Diagnosis," and "European Days and Ways," by Alfred E. Lee.

Our War Secretary, Mr. Proctor, seems to be just as he looks,—a plain, straight-forward, honest, and good-hearted man, with strong individuality and hard common sense. He was a good soldier in the war, and it was his delegation that started in the beginning to vote for Harrison in the National Convention, and never left him. If he hailed from a larger State and one of more importance in a political sense, I think he would be classed with the field of dark horses in the race for the next Republican nomination for the Presidency.—*J. R. Young's Washington letter to Philad'a Star.*

SCIENCE.

THE MINERAL RESOURCES OF ONTARIO.

THE Commission appointed by royal authority two years ago to investigate the mineral resources of the province of Ontario, has made a voluminous report, covering a large amount of original and well-digested information, and suggesting a number of measures for the relief of the present depression in existing mining enterprises, and for the encouragement of further development of the unquestionably large resources which the province possesses. The Commission, which was invested with authority to compel witnesses, held about forty sessions throughout the length and breadth of Ontario, receiving the testimony of 164 witnesses. Most of this testimony is printed in detail.

The boundaries of Ontario have but recently been fixed. The present area is a great enlargement upon the former territory, and is several times greater in extent than all the rest of the Dominion. The line now extends northward from the Ottawa River to the southern end of Hudson's Bay, and thence westward to Manitoba and the Rainy Lake region. An immense area is thus included, which is dotted with lakes and traversed by streams, well wooded and rich in minerals in parts, but for the most part poor and barren. Nine-tenths of it is practically unexplored. All the developed mining regions of Ontario lie in the triangle of land formed by the three lower of the Great Lakes (with Georgian Bay) and in the country bordering Lake Superior on the north.

The total annual mineral production of Ontario is not large. The ratio of the mineral production of Canada and the United States makes a poor exhibit for the former. In 1888 Canada's mineral production was valued at \$12,048,421; that of the United States at \$584,550,576. The disparity is better seen when it is stated that the figures show a production four times as great *per capita* of population in the United States as in Canada. For the province of Ontario alone, the value of mineral products for 1888 is given at \$3,490,799, of which \$2,000,000 is the estimated value of building stone and other building materials. If this item is omitted, leaving the items for the products of greatest importance (in order of amounts mined, 1888),—petroleum, nickel, and copper, silver, salt, iron ore,—the value of the total annual production is about the same as that of the comparatively undeveloped State of Oregon in the single item of gold and silver (1889). The total amount of iron ore mined in Ontario in 1888 was less than one-third of the shipments of the Cranberry Mines of North Carolina.

One of the main centers of interest in Ontario at present is the Sudbury district, comprising the region around the upper end of Lake Huron. Since the discovery of copper here in 1885, said to have been made accidentally at a cut made by the Canadian Pacific railway, the region has been systematically surveyed and cut up into rectangular townships, sections, and locations, and has undergone considerable development. The ore contains from 3 to 7 per cent. copper, and from 2½ to 3½ per cent. nickel. There are some nine or ten important mines, and the production, after the first flurry caused by a new discovery and unascertained value, has been regular and increasing. Several witnesses before the Commission complained of a lack of energy in managing mining properties and in prospecting, and the industry has suffered some from the high freights charged by the Canadian Pacific railway.

The simple and effective arrangement of the Report of the Commission may be followed here. Section I., by Dr. Bell, of the Canadian Geological Survey, is a clear account of the geology of the province, written for unscientific readers, but containing a great deal of information regarding a region the geology of which, as is well known, is exceedingly interesting. The variety and importance of the geological formations of Canada is shown by the number of names which have been incorporated in the literature of the science from Canadian localities. The Laurentian and Huronian systems will first occur to the reader; among the minor formations are the Animikie (the silver-bearing formation of Ontario), the Nipigon, and the Guelph. The information in this section, as in the report generally, is intended for the miner and the prospector; there is a glossary of geological and mining terms, with directions for experiment in the determination of minerals, and advice as to the best methods of exploration.

The second section consists of notes on the mines, locations, and works visited by the Commission, illustrated by a large number of diagrams of the mines, and containing a large amount of testimony regarding the extracting and reducing machinery in use, the quality of ores, business conditions, etc.

The part of the Report most interesting to others than Canadians is reached with the third section, written by the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. John Charlton, M. P., on the influence of

commercial conditions upon the mining industry in Ontario. It is the conclusion of this inquiry that the existing stagnation in the mining industries of Canada is due not to lack of energy and intelligence, nor to faulty political conditions, but to commercial belligerency between that country and the United States. The unanimity on this point, of all witnesses who were interested in mineral products is remarkable. The one cry is, "Give us the American markets!" The iron producers compare the present trifling export of iron ore from Ontario to the United States to the immense shipments by rail and lake from the Superior districts of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. They say that but for the American tariff duty, they could deliver iron ore at Cleveland, Pittsburg, or Chicago at less rates. Producers in the Sudbury districts would like to ship ores to the United States for smelting, (and it may be mentioned that the Senate's amendments to the Tariff bill propose to make the copper ore duty ½ cent. per pound of copper contained instead of 2½ cents, and to reduce the duty on nickel, nickel oxides, and alloys from 15 to 8 cents per pound, and finally to place nickel ore and matte on the free list.)

The geographical relations of Ontario, as particularly suitable for intimate commercial relations with the United States, are continually insisted upon. "The Ontario peninsula," says the Report (p. 220), "is projected like a wedge into the territory of the United States, and across it lies the short cut of travel and traffic between Michigan and the East, between Chicago and New York, and between the northwestern and the eastern States. . . . The natural intimacy of association and connection existing between some portions of the American Union is not so great as that existing between Ontario and Quebec and the Eastern, Middle, and Western States."

Section IV., on Mining Laws and Regulations, summarizes the existing statutes and makes an elaborate comparison with the legislation on the subject in most of the civilized countries of the world. The burden of testimony is to the effect that the present regulations stand in the way of exploration and discovery, and favor the speculator. For instance, there are no local agencies for the issuing of patents and decision of boundaries. The purchase and tenure of mining locations from the Government is not dependent, as in the United States, upon condition of working, and the existing minimum of 80 acres frequently works to the disadvantage of the prospectors and small capitalists. No provision is made in the Mining Laws for the health and safety of miners, and, as owners of mining properties are not required to make return of mining operations, the statistics are incomplete, a condition from which the Report suffers considerably. Finally, measures are needed for the prevention of forest fires, which in many cases are known to have been started by lazy and reckless prospectors simply to uncover the surface.

The last section includes recommendations of supplementary measures for aiding and encouraging mineral development. These are the establishment of a provincial bureau of mines as a branch of a local geological survey; a museum of mineral products at Ottawa; the extension and systematization of mining statistics, which in Ontario, at present, are meagre and unreliable; lastly, the provision of technical instruction in mining and metallurgy.

In the latter connection, a review is made of the technical courses at the principal colleges and institutes of this country and Europe. A study of the actual present conditions of the mining industries of the province in all their branches and bearings, is, of course, the best basis for recommendation of measures intended for their stimulation and further development, and in those directions of progress which depend upon the movement of the Government, we shall look for signs of action in the near future.

NOTES.

FROM a late review of Prof. J. D. Dana's "Characteristics of Volcanoes, etc.," we learn some interesting facts which have been brought out by Prof. Dana's recent study of the volcanoes of the Hawaiian islands. The archipelago contains no less than fifteen volcanoes, all but three of which are now extinct. The highest of them rises to about 14,000 feet above sea-level, but deep-sea soundings show that the floor on which they stand is from 12,000 to 18,000 feet below the surface of the sea. This altitude makes them easily the highest volcanoes on the face of the globe. The lava eruptions of this group are remarkable for non-explosive action, the lava having unusual liquidity, and for the bulk of materials emitted. Some of the igneous products have great beauty and singularity. Prof. Dana's monograph includes an historical review of Hawaiian volcanic action for the past 67 years. A study of the changes in the Kilauea crater illustrates the position of its floor after each of the great eruptions of 1823, 1832, 1840, 1868, and 1886. There is a similar discussion of the records regarding the action of Mauna Loa. Between these two craters there is a complete absence of synchronous action, one being at an elevation of

¹ REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE MINERAL RESOURCES OF ONTARIO, AND MEASURES FOR THEIR DEVELOPMENT. Printed by order of the Legislative Assembly. Toronto: Warwick & Sons. 1890.

10,000 feet above the other. That there should be no subterranean connection between these two great volcanoes, situated in the same mountain-mass, seems remarkable.

The spontaneous ignition of coal, and the explosions which occur in coal pits, have come to be recognized as serious dangers to trans-Atlantic vessels. In fast ocean steamers spontaneous ignition of the coal in the bunkers has become an event of frequent occurrence. A recent paper by Prof. V. B. Lewes, of the English Royal Naval College, explains the nature of the action which produces ignition. The absorption of oxygen by coal carbons is the primary cause. Though the average ignition point of coal lies about 700° F., yet if many of these coals are powdered, ignition may take place at a range of temperatures from 150° to 250° F. The great bulk of coal cargoes, making the cooling outer air at considerable distances from the interior of the heaps; the length of time of storage; the size of the coal, determining the amount of absorbent surface; external wetting; rise in temperature due to proximity to boilers and furnaces, or to the heated atmosphere of the tropics; defective methods of ventilation of the cargo, are the main conditions which influence spontaneous ignition. Prof. Lewes believes that the present methods of ventilation supply just about the right amount of air to create the maximum of heating. Explosions in coal bunkers are held to be due to mixtures of marsh-gas with air, and the area of explosion may be extended by the air becoming charged with fine coal-dust.

The proposed construction of a light-house upon the Outer Diamond Shoal of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, which is probably the most dangerous point upon the entire Atlantic Coast, will be an engineering feat of considerable difficulty. The contractors propose to build an immense iron caisson, surmounted by an iron cylinder of tapering proportions, which will be towed to the shoal and sunk into the shifting sands until suitable foundation is reached. When properly placed, the interior will be filled with concrete to a height of thirty-five feet above sea level; this, when solidified, will form a monolithic shaft of great strength. The base of the tower will be further strengthened by being surrounded by great stones, each of several tons' weight, extending to a distance of 400 feet on all sides. The superstructure will be of iron lined with brick. The contractors have two years in which to complete the work, and must maintain the light for one year before its acceptance by the Government.

Dr. N. L. Britton, of the Torrey Herbarium, Columbia College, has made an addition to his series of catalogues of the plants growing within one hundred miles of New York City. To the present "Catalogue of Plants found in New Jersey," there are a number of contributors, and the work will be of value to collectors and to students of geographical botany.

Dr. John Murray, who has recently made an expedition through Algeria to the Sahara desert, communicates some interesting conclusions in regard to the past history of the desert region. The present features of the country, he believes, are the product of atmospheric conditions rather than of oceanic action. The existing rock is not far below the surface, and on exposure it is readily seen to be the origin of the superincumbent sand. The sudden and wide variations of temperature on the Sahara have been a potent fact or in the progress of disintegration. The temperature sometimes falls from 100° during the day to the freezing point during the night, a result mainly due to the great dryness of the atmosphere and to the rapidity of radiation from the soil after the sun has set. The success which has been attained in the sinking of artesian wells is remarkable, as the water is believed to come from the hills surrounding the desert and which are often at great distances from the wells.

CURRENT EXCERPTS.

THE FEAR OF BEING "LONELY."

Topics of the Time, in the Century.

THE farmer accepted a large measure of isolation as the common lot, and brought up his boys and girls to consider such a mode of life as the natural one. The railroad dealt the first blow at the old régime. It rendered it easy to get away from the farm and to the cities, which in turn the railroad made constantly larger and more numerous. The real attractions of the city grew rapidly, and, what was still more important, the popular conception that the city was full of attractions grew ten times as rapidly. The adventurous youth who had deserted the parental farm to try his fortune on a larger field returned on a visit to the old homestead richer than any man in the town, and the newspapers were constantly telling still more wonderful tales of successes achieved by poor country boys in the city. The whistle of the engine, coming perhaps faintly over miles of meadow and cornfield, was suggestive of wealth, or, if not of wealth, at least of crowds and distractions, in the city towards which it sped. The great world had been before so remote from the farm that it seemed inaccessible; it was

ought now almost within hailing distance. Solitude had appeared almost as natural as it was inevitable; but now that it could be escaped, it began to grow intolerable.

One need not carry his investigations far to discover that the desire to escape the solitude of the farm is often the most potent motive in drawing people to the city. The hope of bettering one's fortune actuates many, but not a few will frankly confess that they have no such hope. The man who abandoned a farm up the Hudson, which had been in the family for generations, and came to New York without having any particular vocation in view, and who was found by an old neighbor some time afterward serving as conductor on a horse-car, was a type of a large class. Apparently it had never occurred to him that the position he occupied as the employee of a corporation which might turn him off any day without a moment's notice was far inferior to that of the independent farmer. What impressed and satisfied him was the fact that he had become a part of the rushing life of the great city. In like manner, it is often the dread of solitude which keeps in the city those born and bred in its poorer quarters who might better their condition immensely by going into the country. "I couldn't stand the quiet," "I should be so lonesome," such are the protests which one hears, over and over again, when offering opportunities of higher wages and greater comfort; hears, moreover, from those who have no strong ties of family or friendship to bind them to the city, but who are held only by the subtle attractions of the crowds, the street scenes, the petty incidents which must always diversify the course of events where there is a great aggregation of people. It is the simple truth that thousands of men and women would prefer scanty food and poor lodgings in a large city to abundant fare and good quarters in a small village, or, worse still, in some comfortable but isolated farm-house two or three miles from a village. A philanthropic New Yorker, interested in a tenement-house family, which was always more or less dependent upon charity, secured them a farm in New Jersey rent free, and established them upon it. They made a living, and were, as he supposed, enjoying their independence, when, not a year later, he discovered that they had abandoned the farm and returned to their wretched existence in the city. Finding the mother, he asked why they had not remained where they were so well off. "Well, there wasn't much company there." This was the sole reason she had to give.

Nor is this phenomenon confined to the United States. The same disproportionate growth of the cities and towns, at the expense of the rural districts, is observable in England and on the Continent, and may be traced to the same causes there as here. People flock from the country into London and Paris as they do into New York, not merely because they are badly off in the country and hope to better themselves in the city, but also because they "can't stand the quiet" of a monotonous existence, and are willing to risk the loss of present comfort in order to secure change of scene. Has the whole world, then, wearied of solitude, grown intolerant of quiet, become enamored of crowds and noise? That would, indeed, be a melancholy conclusion. Happily there is another side to the picture. The most noteworthy development of the vacation season during recent summers has been the growing disposition of city people to seek privacy when they go into the country.

A PLEA AGAINST ANONYMOUS JOURNALISM.

William D. Howells, in Harper's Magazine.

It will be long before criticism ceases to imagine itself a controlling force, to give itself airs of sovereignty, and to issue decrees. As it exists it is mostly a mischief, though not the greatest mischief; but it may be greatly ameliorated in character and softened in manner by the total abolition of anonymity. We have no hesitation in saying that anonymous criticism is almost wholly an abuse, and we do not confine our meaning here to literary criticism. Now that nearly every aspect and nook and corner of life is searched by print, it is intolerably oppressive that any department of current literature, or of the phase of literature we call journalism, should be anonymous. Every editorial, every smallest piece of reporting, that involves a personal matter, should be signed by the writer, who should be personally responsible for his words. In a free country where no one can suffer for his opinions, no one has a right to make another suffer by them more condemnation than his individual name can carry. Thanks to the interviewer, the society reporter, and the special correspondent, the superstitious awe in which print has been held is fast vanishing; but print still bears too great authority. If each piece of it were signed by the author, its false advantage would be dissipated.

We believe that journalists generally have far more conscience in dealing with events than they are accredited with; but we are afraid that they have also less. This was some time a paradox, but the situation it suggests would pass with the temptations and privileges hedging in the man who shoots from the dark at a man in the light. There ought not to be any such thing as journalistic authority which can continue in equal force through all the changes of personnel in the journalistic management, and can be handed on from a just and upright man to a mean and cruel and vindictive man, and still carry to the reader the weight of a great journal's name. If every interview were signed, so that the public might understand that it was relying upon the accuracy and honesty of this or that reporter, and not upon the good faith of the journal whose management can have no means of verifying the interview, the interviewer would cease to represent anything but himself, and if he were held directly and personally responsible, it would be much to the health of his own soul and the advantage of the public. As it is, he is supposed to represent the journal which employs him, and the management is from time to time obliged to endorse him or disclaim him. He is called in his own language the *Times* representative, or the *Sun* representative, or the *World* representative; but as a matter of fact he represents nothing but himself. He can represent nothing else; and no writer of leading articles in any journal can represent anything more. Journalistic entity is a baleful fiction, a mask which ought to be torn from the features of the Browns, Joneses, and Robinsons who usually wear it. No danger would attend these champions of the common good in a free State, if their visors were lifted, beyond what attends each of us in our every-day affairs, which we conduct in person with a due regard to law and the decen-

cies of society. These forbid us to injure others, or to affront them by insolent or arrogant behavior, such as we witness every day in anonymous journalism.

WHAT REAL DUTY TO PARTY IS.

The Civil Service Reformer, (Baltimore), August.

A PARTY is an instrument intended to secure good government, and while it fulfills its purpose it is a good thing to be cherished by good men. When, however, it becomes a hindrance to good government, and the instrument of unscrupulous men to secure their own selfish advantage, it is no more entitled to respect or affection than Ali Baba's Forty Thieves, and becomes simply a nuisance to be abated. The fact that an organization bearing the same name has done good once, and that the present organization might conceivably be made, under other conditions and in other hands, a means of good hereafter, are altogether beside the question. We have to dispose of a party as it is now: its past may be left to sentimentalists, its future to prophets. The Republicans of Pennsylvania must deal with a party controlled by Quay, the Democrats of Maryland with a party controlled by Gorman; what the latter think of the party founded by Jefferson and Madison or the former of the party which preserved the Union and destroyed slavery, is of speculative interest only.

In saying this we recognize that in each case a distinction must in fairness be drawn between the party itself and the corrupt and designing men who have seized on its government. *Life's* joke about Mr. Harrison's spelling incubus with a Q expresses fairly enough the relation of either "boss" to the organization he discredits and abuses, but the distinction is as one drawn between the government of Queen Victoria and the government of Lord Salisbury and his colleagues. To "smash" the boss we must be willing to strike the party: the blow may be, indeed, the means of its redemption. There is a curious incapacity in our parties to get rid of their vampires by any movement from within. Mr. Harrison may think Quay an incubus, yet he meekly surrenders into his hands the patronage of Pennsylvania. It is hard to believe that there was ever much real sympathy between Cleveland and Gorman, yet we know to our cost that Gorman was omnipotent with Cleveland as to the offices here. Had the revolt of 1885 in Maryland succeeded, the subsequent course and fate of the last Administration might have been different. Should Pattison be elected in November, this Administration will be released from an irksome and unseemly yoke. While such senatorial barons control the dominant party within their several States, a President of the same faith (as politics are now) cannot afford to quarrel with them, and while they control the Federal patronage their supremacy within the party can hardly be shaken. Those who would free their party must be prepared to purify it by defeat.

DRIFT.

DR. H. M. FISHER, of Philadelphia, Acting Secretary of the American Forestry Association, has sent out a circular announcing that the summer meeting will be held at Quebec next month. The circular says:

"The American Forestry Association has gratefully accepted the invitation tendered by the Government of the Province of Quebec to meet, this autumn, at Quebec, in the Parliament Buildings, from the 2d to the 5th day of September next.

"The preservation of the forest and its judicious management are questions of vital importance for Canada, where nearly all the forest lands, with very few exceptions, are part of the Public Domain. It will be interesting to study the Canadian system on the spot, and every facility for doing so will be afforded the Association. The result cannot fail to strengthen the hands of the American Forestry Association in its endeavors to protect the forest wealth of this Continent.

"While the conditions under which the Association will meet at Quebec, are a guarantee that earnest and useful work shall be done there in the cause of Forestry, the historical character of the old City of Quebec, with its numerous points of interest and beautiful surroundings, will be a further inducement to attend this meeting.

"The time appointed, from Tuesday the 2d September to Friday the 5th, will enable the admirers of nature to see the St. Lawrence and its picturesque shores, in all their beauty, and that date has been specially chosen for the convenience of those, who, after the meeting, may wish to visit the far-famed Saguenay region, before returning home.

"Correspondence has been opened with the Trunk Line Association and arrangements are expected to be made for the return tickets at reduced rates. Members of the Association and others proposing to attend the meeting should therefore purchase their tickets to Quebec direct and obtain from the ticket agent a receipt for the money paid, stating the route for which the ticket was issued. On presentation of this receipt to Mr. H. G. Joly, at the hall of meeting, he will sign a Certificate (provided fifty such receipts are presented) that the holder has been in attendance at the meeting and is entitled to a ticket to his original starting point (or to the point where he entered the territory of the passenger associations) at one-third the regular fare.

"The members of the Forestry Association are requested to send the title of the papers they intend reading, at the meeting, addressed to Hon. H. G. Joly, 15 Buade street, Quebec, before the fifteenth August next, so as to allow the Committee time for proper classification, and preparing and printing of Programme. All papers presented at the meeting will belong to the American Forestry Association, and are to be referred to the Publication Committee for publication in such manner as the said committee may deem advisable.

"Every facility will be extended to the newspaper Press for reporting the proceedings. All those who take an interest in Forestry, and wish to join the Association can do so by sending their name and address to Dr. Henry M. Fisher, Treasurer of the American Forestry Association, 919 Walnut street, Philadelphia, enclosing two dollars for one year's dues, or, if they prefer, they can join the association at the meeting at Quebec."

The logical outcome of slavish obedience to party is illustrated by the following paragraph from the Kennett (Pa.) *Advance*, an independent Republican journal of the Sixth District:

"It is claimed by his enemies that Senator Robinson's nomination to Congress in Delaware county cost him fully forty thousand dollars, and those who opposed him during the late heated canvass, had no hesitation in saying that it was the most corrupt political campaign that the people of Delaware county have ever witnessed. Whether these things are true or false we do not propose at this time to consider. What we want to notice is the fact that as soon as the result of the county convention was known the men who had been for weeks declaiming against Senator Robinson's campaign as shockingly corrupt and degrading, and the worst exhibition of the pernicious power of money ever seen in the county, with one accord, rose up in the convention and pledged their hearty support to the nomination. If the half of what these men had charged against Senator Robinson be true, he is guilty of wholesale bribery and is a fit subject for the penitentiary, yet those who were so eager to affirm the truth of the charges now declare him the proper man for the Republicans of the Sixth Congressional district to send to Washington to assist in making national laws."

The *Civil Service Record*, published at Indianapolis, by Mr. Lucius B. Swift, (who supported Mr. Harrison for President), says:

"The coming election in Pennsylvania is a matter of grave concern. It is Mahone and Virginia over again, but on a larger scale and of greater importance. It is not necessary to repeat that Quay now holds the government of Pennsylvania, both State and national, firmly by the throat; he keeps his hold by means already fully set out in these columns. . . . If he succeeds in the coming election the stain will remain and the disgrace will be doubled. The corruption which the spoils system has worked among the people of Pennsylvania, is powerfully illustrated by the fact that a great body of honest people who believe in sending thieves to prison, propose to smother their honest principles and do what they can to help Quay through, notwithstanding his crime. President Harrison is in the attitude of working side by side with Quay, and with them Postmaster-General Wanamaker. They have turned the Federal service in Pennsylvania over to Quay. As with Mahone in Virginia, every good citizen ought to hope that they will here also meet with a stinging, overwhelming, and disgraceful defeat."

The Washington correspondent of the *Philadelphia Ledger*, in his dispatches of the 3d inst., says:

"Considerable publicity has been given to a story to the effect that ex-Congressman Sowden, of Pennsylvania, who was an applicant for appointment as one of the General Appraisers under the Customs Administrative Act, was defeated because ex-President Cleveland requested President Harrison not to appoint him. There is no truth in this story and no foundation for it. The appointment of Mr. Sowden was urged by many prominent Republicans and business men of Pennsylvania, who thought that the President should, in selecting the Democrats for the Board, recognize the Raudall wing of the Democratic party, and as Mr. Sowden was a firm supporter of the late Mr. Randall, and stood steadfastly by that eminent man in his opposition to the Mills bill, it was thought the President should select him. In addition to this Mr. Sowden is well qualified for the discharge of the duties involved. Mr. Cleveland made no request upon the President in connection with Mr. Sowden, and it is doubtful if he knew that he was an applicant. Mr. Sowden was not appointed because Senators Quay and Cameron opposed his selection. These Senators wanted a Republican selected from Pennsylvania, and gave the President to understand that if such a person should not be selected they would resist the appointment of any Democrat from their State. Had it not been for the opposition of the two Senators either Mr. Sowden, of Allentown, or General Geo. R. Snowden, of Philadelphia, would have been given the appointment."

A correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, writing from San Juan del Norte (Greytown), Nicaragua, gives an excellent detailed account of the operations on the Nicaragua Canal. There are now, besides the engineers and mechanics, 1,200 laborers at work, of whom 700 are employed by the canal company and 500 by railroad contractors. These contractors are engaged in constructing a railway line, ten miles in length, from the San Juan river to where the cut begins on the Atlantic side. This task is expected to be completed by November. It would appear from the correspondent's story that very little actual excavation has been done. The company has devoted its chief energies to the preliminary work of erecting wharves, store-houses, barracks and a hospital, and constructing a jetty, which has already had the effect of deepening the channel so that large vessels can come right into Greytown harbor, where they have not floated for many years. The officers in charge of the work, the engineers and the skilled mechanics, are almost exclusively Americans, and the tools, machinery, and provisions are drawn from the United States. Most of the common unskilled workmen are Jamaica negroes, who were found most efficient on the Panama Canal. Only a small portion of the working force is composed of native Nicaraguans.

While the public debt is decreasing in the United States the reverse process is under way in Canada. In 1867, at the time of the establishment of the Dominion, its debt amounted to \$22 per head of the population, and that of the United States to \$62 per head. To-day the United States debt, on the same basis, is about \$15, and that of the Dominion \$48. That is to say, while the per capita indebtedness of the United States is only a quarter as great as it was twenty-three years ago, Canada's is more than twice as large as it was then.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat*.

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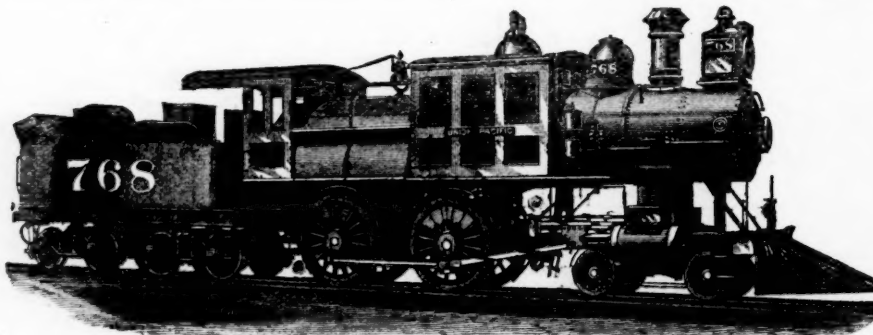
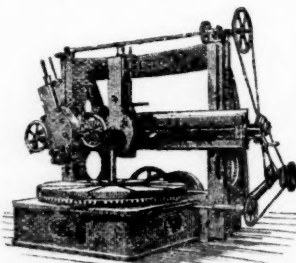
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